



**FAO Regional Office for the Near East
and North Africa**

**SUBREGIONAL
STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN
Resilient Livelihoods for
Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security
in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis**

**Cairo, Egypt
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACSAD	- Arab Center for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands
ACTED	- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
ADELNORD	- <i>Projet d'Appui au Développement Local au Nord du Liban</i>
AFAD	- Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (of Turkey)
BERP	- Badia Ecosystem Restoration Program (of Jordan)
CBO	- Community-based organization
CERF	- Central Emergency Response Fund
CFSAM	- Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (of FAO and WFP, in Syria)
CPF	- Country Programming Framework (of FAO)
DFID	- Department for International Development (of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
DRM	- Disaster risk management
DRR	- Disaster risk reduction
ECTAD	- Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (of FAO)
EMPRES	- Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases
FAO	- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFS	- Farmer field school
FBS	- Farmer business school
FMD	- Foot-and-mouth disease
GAP	- Good agricultural practices
GCC	- Gulf Cooperation Council
GDP	- Gross domestic product
GHP	- Good hygienic practices
GIEWS	- Global Information and Early Warning System (of FAO)
GIZ	- German Agency for International Cooperation
GMP	- Good manufacturing practices
ICARDA	- International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
IDP	- Internally displaced person
IFAD	- International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFI	- International financial institution
ILO	- International Labour Organization
IPC	- Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
JRFNA	- Joint Rapid Food Needs Assessment (of FAO and WFP in Syria)
LSD	- Lumpy skin disease
MoAAR	- Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (of Syria)
MoALR	- Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (of Egypt)
MoFAL	- Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (of Turkey)
NAJMAH	- National Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition
NCARE	- National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension (of Jordan)
NGO	- Non-governmental Organization
OCHA	- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OIE	- World Organisation for Animal Health
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants
RNE	Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa
RRP6	- 2014 sixth Regional Response Plan (of the United Nations, for the Syria crisis)
SHARP	- 2014 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan (of the United Nations, for the Syria crisis)
SO	Strategic Objective
TAD	- Transboundary animal disease
UK	- United Kingdom

- UN - United Nations
- UNCC - United Nations Compensation Council
- UNDAF - United Nations Development Assistance Framework
- UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
- UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
- UNHCR - United Nations High Commission for Refugees
- USAID - United States Agency for International Development
- WFP - World Food Programme
- WHO - World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Introduction

The humanitarian situation in Syria is of grave concern, with domestic, regional and growing international consequences. As the conflict enters its fourth year, insecurity, generalized violence and specific persecution continue to force the people of Syria to seek safety and protection elsewhere, both inside the country and in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. In December 2013, the United Nations (UN) estimated that more than **12 million** Syrians were in need of humanitarian assistance, including **6.5 million who are internally displaced** (which includes at least 235 000 Palestinian refugees); **2.2 million who are registered as refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey**; hundreds of thousands who may not have registered or became refugees “*sur place*”; and Lebanese, Palestinian and other refugees displaced from Syria.

Nearly two-thirds of the refugees and returnees are located outside of refugee camps (including 100 percent in Egypt and Lebanon) being hosted by communities, which themselves often have limited means and are increasingly under threat of food insecurity and poverty. **It is further estimated that 60 percent of these are located in small rural towns and villages where agriculture is the primary source of livelihood. The conflict and its spillover effects are affecting economic, social and human development, most dramatically inside Syria, but also in the neighbouring countries and communities affected**, most notably in Lebanon and Jordan where refugees account for 18 and 10 percent of the overall population, respectively. The protracted situation of the crisis and the large numbers of refugees are now negatively affecting the food security, livelihoods, health and cohesion of affected parts of urban Egypt, northern Iraq, northern Jordan, eastern and northern Lebanon and southern Turkey, which have always been welcoming and hospitable to their neighbours. **However, with such high numbers entering parts of those countries and staying on indefinitely, this is now starting to cause friction and tension among the host communities and the Syrian refugees.**

In February and March 2013, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) undertook a rapid agricultural livelihoods and food security impact assessment and prepared an initial response plan for the Syria crisis in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey¹. In November 2013, the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa fielded “agricultural programming” missions to the “subregion” with the objectives of: (i) providing a Syria crisis and resilience perspective to FAO’s 2012 “Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs)”;

(ii) updating and expanding the March 2013 Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment and Response Plan; and (iii) developing FAO’s “Subregional Strategy and Action Plan for Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis”.

2. Impact of the crisis on the agriculture sector of Syria and its neighbouring countries

One of the most serious shortcomings with regards to proper planning for emergency, recovery and development interventions is the *de facto* absence of comprehensively reliable information and especially quantitative data to assess the exact impact of the various facets of the unfolding Syria crisis on the rural settings and agriculture sectors of Syria and its neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Despite this serious shortcoming, FAO and the respective Ministries of Agriculture were able to determine the main impacts of the Syria crisis on food and nutrition security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources (i.e. land, water and forests) in the subregion. Following is a summary of these impacts.

¹ FAO; Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment and Response Plan for the Syria Crisis in the Neighbouring Countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey; March 2013.

Food insecurity and poverty in Syria: The World Food Programme (WFP) and FAO reported that 60 percent of Syria's current population (or 12.6 million people) is now poor; of these, 4.4 million are categorized as extremely poor. The unemployment rate in the country reached an estimated 49 percent in mid-2013. This translates into 2.3 million jobs lost since the start of the crisis, mainly in the agriculture and transportation sectors, compromising the wellbeing of approximately 9.6 million people. FAO and WFP further estimated that 6.3 million people inside Syria are in critical need of food and agriculture assistance – an increase of more than 50 percent since June 2013 – because of severe food insecurity and malnutrition.

Food availability in neighbouring countries: A significant drop in food production in Syria is negatively affecting food availability in the rest of the subregion, raising the need for food imports and thus increasing the exposure of neighbouring countries and their host communities – which, prior to the Syria crisis, were relatively food secure in terms of “food availability” – to shocks in world and regional food supplies and prices.

Food access and utilization in neighbouring countries: Food prices have increased significantly as a result of the increased demand for basic foods and services. Transportation costs have particularly increased. While the prices of some food products have decreased, particularly those items that could not be exported, overall food prices are higher than before the crisis. Between 2011 and 2012, food prices increased annually in neighbouring countries by 5 to 10 percent. For nutritious meats, dairy products, eggs and sugar the increase was between 15 and 30 percent. Food price increases and the removal of food subsidies have shrunk the real incomes and reduced the purchasing power of poor households, forcing a change in their dietary consumption and increasing the levels of malnutrition in the host communities.

Transboundary animal diseases (TADs) and plant diseases and pests: The collapse of veterinary, sanitary, phytosanitary and plant protection services inside Syria and the increasing uncontrolled movement of unvaccinated and untreated livestock and untreated seeds and planting materials from Syria into Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, combined with the weak veterinary, sanitary and phytosanitary inspection services of those countries (with regard to surveillance and control), now mean that there is a severe threat of TADs and a significant threat of transboundary crop diseases and pests. Localized outbreaks of some significant diseases and zoonoses have been reported in all countries.

Food safety: Refugee camps and impoverished host communities facing a lack of cash together with food and water supplies of questionable quality are highly exposed to outbreaks of food- and water-borne diseases. This can be aggravated by the additional workload on public authorities already lacking both sanitary and phytosanitary capacity and preparedness arrangements to control food quality and safety at border crossings.

Marginalization of landless and smallholder farmers and farm workers: Significant numbers of marginal and small-scale farmers and livestock breeders in affected areas of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey have suffered significant losses in farm income because of forced abandonment of farmlands or limited/untimely access to fields to plant, irrigate, weed and harvest their crops (as a result of hostilities in border areas), loss of informal cross-border trading opportunities (“smuggling”) in previously subsidized Syrian agricultural inputs, reduced availability of irrigation water, two- to five-fold increases in the prices of agricultural inputs, reduced marketing opportunities for traditional export crops and a corresponding 20 to 40 percent net decrease in farm-gate prices. With the increasing availability of Syrian labour, there has been a decrease in farm wages for family members of landless and marginal farmers by 25 to 30 percent.

Degradation of natural resources: The breakdown of nomadic and transhumant grazing systems on the Badia rangelands of northwestern Iraq, northeastern Jordan and southern Syria, and the increased movement of Syrian livestock into Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon have resulted in the overgrazing of rangelands, increasing the threat of land degradation and water resources depletion (similar to the damage caused by the movement of 1.8 million sheep, goats and camels to the Badia of northeastern Jordan during the 1990–1991 Gulf war). The influx of refugees in large numbers has resulted in accelerated degradation of forest and water resources for firewood and domestic and irrigation water use, in particular for rural communities of northern Lebanon and irrigated farmers of Mafraq in Jordan, Bekaa Valley in Lebanon and Kurdistan region of Iraq.

3. FAO's strategy for strengthening resilience to the Syria crisis

FAO's corporate Strategic Objective 5 ("increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises") straddles across and encompasses both emergency and development interventions aiming to ensure a continuum of short-term and longer-term action in support of the most vulnerable affected groups around the world.

Under this complex and multidimensional "subregional" scenario of the Syria crisis, with expected long-lasting impacts on both Syria and neighbouring countries, FAO places "resilience" at the heart of its interventions, addressing both the short-term humanitarian needs and the longer-term underlying causes of vulnerability. With the final aim to protect, restore and strengthen livelihoods and the agro-ecosystems on which livelihoods depend, short-, medium- and longer-term actions are tailor-made to address the specific needs of the main groups affected by the crisis, i.e. Syrian internally displaced persons (IDPs) and affected populations, refugees, returnees, host communities, and national and local authorities. This entails interrelated and mutually supporting actions at all levels: households, communities, institutions and agro-ecosystems at the national and regional levels.

In line with national governments' priorities, within existing regional frameworks for addressing the Syria crisis and in partnership with national institutions, UN agencies, non-state actors and private-sector organizations, FAO has prepared this **Subregional Strategy and Action Plan for "Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis"**. The overall goal of the Subregional Strategy is to *"strengthen the resilience of livelihood systems (including individuals, households, communities and agro-ecosystems) to absorb, recover and adapt in a sustainable way from the impacts of the Syria crisis; reduce risks; and anticipate and mitigate future shocks affecting the food and nutrition security and the renewable resource base"*. The Strategy, which reflects FAO's corporate and regional frameworks (with the Syria crisis as its source and core), is articulated around four main mutually reinforcing pillars, as follows:

- i. **Support vulnerable and affected people coping with the impact of the crisis and protect their livelihood asset base for future self-reliance** – *"Prepare and respond"*.
- ii. **Promote prevention and impact mitigation measures** – *"Apply risk and vulnerability reduction measures"*.
- iii. **Support information, monitoring and analysis networks** on food and nutrition security – *"Watch to safeguard"*.
- iv. **Institutional strengthening for building regional, national and local capacities, as well as related policy frameworks to scale up and sustain the risk management and crisis recovery efforts** – *"Govern risk and crisis"*.

In order to operationalize the Strategy, **FAO's Subregional Action Plan** encompasses key **emergency response, agricultural restoration, livelihood recovery, risk-sensitive agricultural development and policy and capacity development interventions aimed at the humanitarian relief for IDPs, refugees and returnees; stabilization and recovery of the national agriculture sectors; and strengthening resilience of Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities to help them withstand the impact of the Syria crisis**. FAO and the national Ministries of Agriculture, working together with other relevant actors, aim to leverage the Organization's comparative advantage in food and nutrition security, agriculture-based livelihoods and natural resource management programming, both globally and in the Near East region, by focusing on seven generic priority interventions (including short-, medium- and long-term actions) for building resilient livelihoods for agriculture and food and nutrition security in areas affected by the Syria crisis, as follows:

- i. **Strengthening the regional and national capacities for the control of TADs and improved animal health services.**
- ii. **Strengthening the regional and national capacities for the control of transboundary plant diseases and pests and improved phytosanitary services.**

- iii. **Capacity development of Ministries of Agriculture, Departments of Statistics and other stakeholders of agriculture sectors in food security and natural resource information systems, disaster risk management and policy development.**
- iv. **Improved rural and peri-urban income generation and employment through smallholder crop and livestock production and integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and produce marketing (i.e. “value chain development”) in communities hosting Syrian refugees.**
- v. **Crop and livestock diversification and intensification and promotion of climate-smart agriculture technologies and practices in affected areas of Syria and communities hosting IDPs, Syrian refugees and Lebanese and Iraqi returnees through community-based adaptive research and participatory extension approaches.**
- vi. **Strengthening national capacities for community-based natural resource management.**
- vii. **Improved food nutrition and food safety for refugees, returnees and vulnerable host communities.**

The Subregional Action Plan targets areas of Syria affected by the protracted conflict, IDP settlements and refugee camps and communities hosting refugees and returnees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Moreover, and with no end to the protracted Syria crisis in sight, the Action Plan is a living document (open to regular update and revision)², which covers an initial period of five years (2014–2018) and across three overlapping, interlocking or sequential tracks/timeframes, as follows:

(i) Short-term rapid delivery and immediate impact food and agriculture emergency relief and stakeholder agricultural policy development (0 to 12 months) – including food and nutrition security and agriculture-based livelihoods subprogrammes and projects, which would have an immediate impact on families and communities directly affected by the Syria crisis.

(ii) Medium-term delivery and impact for the recovery of agricultural livelihoods and agro-ecosystems (1 to 3 years) – including medium-sized subprogrammes and projects that need longer preparation and implementation time, as well as short-term track interventions that are further scaled up in areas affected by the Syria crisis.

(iii) Long-term delivery and impact for risk-sensitive development of the agriculture and rural sectors (2 to 5 years) – including subprogrammes and projects aimed at mitigating the impact of the Syria conflict at the governorate/provincial and national levels – such as extensive use and depletion of physical assets – strengthening livelihood resilience and institutional capacities that are nested within national government development strategies.

As mentioned earlier, one of the main constraints encountered during preparation of the Subregional Action Plan was related to the lack of data on food security, agricultural livelihoods and vulnerability analysis, as well on the impact of the crisis on the already fragile natural resources, which poses a major challenge for informed decision-making. Now, three years into the Syria crisis, the quality and quantity of credible and timely information on the food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resource situation remain extremely variable in terms of coverage and frequency. While some useful studies have been conducted, these have generally focused on specific areas and/or population groups in Syria and its neighbouring countries, and their quality varies widely. This Action Plan tries to address this challenge by stressing the need for development of food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources information networks – the work in this field will represent one of the key focus areas for FAO’s engagement in the short, medium and long term.

4. FAO’s Subregional Action Plan – national and regional programmes and subprogrammes

The seven above-mentioned priority interventions comprise two regional and 24 national programmes mutually reinforcing 51 short-, medium- and long-term subprogrammes – in support of the relief,

² For example, following results of FAO’s agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of Jordanian and Lebanese host communities to be conducted by April/May 2014.

recovery and development of the Syrian, Jordanian, Lebanese, Iraqi, Egyptian and Turkish agriculture sectors and their rural and peri-urban livelihoods (including food and nutrition security, income generation and natural resource management initiatives). **The respective programmes and subprogrammes are listed below.**

5. Subregional Action Plan – budget

The total cost of the FAO “Subregional Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods and Food and Agriculture Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis” is estimated at **USD 279.83 million** over a period of five years. A breakdown of cost estimates by programme intervention area, country and track/timeframe is as follows:

Action Plan: Cost Estimate – Intervention		Action Plan: Cost Estimate – Country		Action Plan: Cost Estimate – Track	
Programme intervention area	USD (million)	Country	USD (million)	Track	USD (million)
Control of TADs	40.11	Syria	100.58	Short term	85.88
Capacity development	20.96	Jordan	51.13	Medium term	123.02
Income generation and employment	101.33	Lebanon	50.41	Long term	70.93
Natural resource management	10.26	Iraq	23.74	Total	279.83
Control of plant diseases and pests	5.43	Egypt	22.26		
Diversification and intensification	99.35	Turkey	13.01		
Food nutrition and food safety	2.39	Regional	18.72		
Total	279.83	Total	279.83		

(i) Syria

Programme:		USD
	Short term (humanitarian relief and policy development)	
	Medium term (agricultural livelihoods recovery)	
	Long term (agricultural and rural development)	
S.1 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security information systems		2 676 000
	S.1.1 Leadership and coordination of the food and agriculture sector (12 months)	676 000
	S.1.2 Support to the surveillance and monitoring of national food and nutrition security (30 months)	2 000 000
S.2 Support to agriculture-based livelihoods through the rehabilitation of damaged small-scale irrigation schemes		20 400 000
	S.2.1 Emergency support of agriculture-based livelihoods through the implementation of “cash-for-work” for the rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals (12 months)	5 400 000
	S.2.2 Recovery of agricultural livelihoods through the rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation schemes and improved water management (36 months)	15 000 000
S.3 Enhanced resilience of smallholder farmers through improved crop production		40 000 000
	S.3.1 Emergency support to crop production for impoverished farming communities affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)	20 000 000
	S.3.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for vulnerable rural farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through the rehabilitation of sustainable input supply systems and promotion of climate-smart production technologies and practices (36 months)	20 000 000
S.4 Enhanced resilience of small-scale livestock herders through improved livestock production		30 000 000
	S.4.1 Emergency assistance to support small-scale livestock herders affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)	10 000 000
	S.4.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for small-scale livestock herders affected by the Syria crisis through improved animal health and production systems (36 months)	20 000 000
S.5 Enhanced resilience of rural and peri-urban households through integrated homestead gardening		7 500 000
	S.5.1. Emergency response to restore/sustain livelihoods of vulnerable landless and marginal farmers affected by the crisis in the Syria through improved integrated horticulture and poultry production and enhanced food nutrition (12 months)	7 500 000
	S.5.2 Smallholder value chain development in provinces most severely affected by the Syria crisis*	–
Total		100 576 000

* Given the present situation in Syria, it is difficult to assess the final impact of the crisis on value chains of agricultural commodities, and formulate and budget an appropriate long-term development subprogramme.

(ii) Jordan

Programme:	USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)	
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)	
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)	
J.1 Strengthening the national capacity for TADs control and improved animal health services	9 553 600
J.1.1 Emergency control of TADs (<i>18 months</i>)	2 602 600
J.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses (<i>36 months</i>)	6 951 000
J.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security and natural resource information systems and policy development	752 500
J.2.1 Agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of host communities (<i>15 months</i>)	752 500
J.2.2 Technical support to agricultural policy development in Jordan (<i>24 months</i>)	
J.3 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees	22 110 400
J.3.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafrqa Governorates (<i>12 months</i>)	2 100 000
J.3.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Jordan (<i>42 months</i>)	9 600 000
J.3.3 Smallholder value chain development in Northern Jordan (<i>jointly with International Labour Organization [ILO], 36 months</i>)	10 410 400
J.4. Intensification and diversification of smallholder agriculture and food production in northern Jordan	8 949 400
J.4.1 Enhanced rural household energy in rural communities hosting Syrian refugees (<i>18 months</i>)	1 500 000
J.4.2 Climate-smart smallholder agricultural production through participatory extension approaches in northern Jordan (<i>54 months</i>)	7 449 400
J.5 Phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Jordan	2 715 700
J.5.1 Strengthening the control, reporting and early warning systems for transboundary plant diseases and pests and improved plant protection services (<i>30 months</i>)	2 715 700
J.6 Strengthening the national capacity for community-based natural resource management in the Badia rangelands of Jordan	6 179 800
J.6.1 Community-based water harvesting and range management in the northeast Badia (<i>24 months</i>)	916 300
J.6.2 Forest policy development (<i>18 months</i>)	
J.6.3 Restoring pastoral livelihoods and reducing land degradation through community-based range management in the Badia (<i>in support of WFP and United Nations Compensation Council-funded projects, 54 months</i>)	5 263 500
J.7 Food nutrition for Syrian refugees in Jordan	870 000
J.7.1 Improved food nutrition and food safety for Syrian refugees in host communities (<i>12 months</i>)	870 000
Total	51 131 400

(iii) Lebanon

Programme:	USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)	
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)	
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)	
L.1 Strengthening resilience through improved livestock productivity	9 119 400
L.1.1 Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock grazing in areas along the Syria-Lebanon border (<i>20 months</i>)	3 000 000
L.1.2 Increased income generation through sustainable improvements in livestock production of vulnerable smallholders affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)	6 119 400
L.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in disaster management and related regulatory frameworks	9 531 800
L.2.1. Coordination and monitoring for food security and agricultural livelihoods emergency and recovery in rural areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>24 months</i>)	1 165 400
L.2.2 Strengthening disaster and crisis management capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders (<i>36 months</i>)	1 866 400
L.2.3 Upgrading input supply regulatory systems for agriculture emergency and recovery (<i>36 months</i>)	3 900 000
L.2.4 Policy and strategy development for improved domestic and export marketing of key commodities from areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)	2 600 000
L.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor Lebanese farming communities to the Syria crisis	23 436 500
L.3.1 Relieving the suffering of Lebanese returnees and host communities through the recovery of smallholder agricultural production (<i>12 months</i>)	6 900 000
L.3.2 Rehabilitation of the dairy subsector to improve food security and nutrition of Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities (<i>12 months</i>)	4 036 500
L.3.3 Strengthening the resilience of resource-poor farm families and returnees through improved crop production, agroprocessing and marketing (<i>36 months</i>)	12 500 000
L.3.4 Reinforcing the resilience of Lebanese farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through value chain development (<i>jointly with ILO, 48 months</i>)	
L.4 Food safety and phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Lebanon	2 715 700
L.4.1 Improved food quality control services along the Syria border in Lebanon (<i>30 months</i>)	2 715 700
L.5 Natural resource management in areas seriously affected by the impact of the Syria crisis	4 081 800
L.5.1 Protection and recovery of vital natural resources seriously affected by the Syria crisis in Akkar, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel and Bekaa Governorates (<i>36 months</i>)	4 081 800
L.6 Enhanced food nutrition for vulnerable rural families affected by the Syria crisis	1 519 300
L.6.1 Improving food security and nutritional value at community and household levels for resource-poor rural families of eastern and northern Lebanon affected by the Syria crisis (<i>18 months</i>)	1 519 300
Total	50 404 500

(iv) Iraq

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
I.1 Strengthening the national capacity for TADs and improved animal health services		7 221 000
I.1.1 Emergency control of TADs in Ninawa Governorate (<i>18 months</i>)		1 365 000
I.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses in northern Iraq (<i>30 months</i>)		5 856 000
I.2 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees in northern Iraq		16 514 000
I.2.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees (<i>12 months</i>)		4 800 000
I.2.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Kurdistan region (<i>42 months</i>)		5 620 000
I.2.3. Smallholder value chain development in Kurdistan region (<i>36 months</i>)		6 094 000
Total		23 735 000

(v) Egypt

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
E.1 Enhance food security information, knowledge sharing and agriculture resilience programming		3 500 000
E.1.1 National agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (<i>36 months</i>)		3 500 000
E.2 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt		18 755 600
E.2.1 Urban farming in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)		1 804 000
E.2.2 Enhanced food nutrition and income generation in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)		6 451 600
E.2.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>36 months</i>)		10 500 000
E.2.4. Support to value chain development for small-scale food producers and processors from peri-urban areas of Egypt (<i>48 months</i>)		
Total		22 255 600

(vi) Turkey

Programme:	USD
T.1 (Short term) Food nutrition and income generation for Syrian refugees through support to “micro-gardening” initiatives in selected refugee camps (12 months)	1 012 000
T.2 (Short term) Recovery of smallholder agricultural production and marketing in the impoverished Syria border areas of Turkey (2 x 12 months, <i>i.e. annual subsidies for the duration of the crisis</i>)	12 000 000
Total	13 012 000

(vii) Regional

Programme:	USD
R.1 (Long term) Strengthening regional capacity for the control of TADs in the Near East region (42 months)	14 218 000
R.2 (Long term) Subregional agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (48 months)	4 496 800
Total	18 714 800

6. Connection between FAO’s Subregional Strategy and Action Plan and FAO’s Strategic Framework and UN Responses

The FAO Subregional Action Plan has been prepared to be in line with and/or to support current government policies and programmes for national development and poverty alleviation, food security and agriculture, natural resources and climate change, and the following FAO and UN strategies, responses, plans and roadmaps:

- FAO’s five corporate Strategic Objectives (in particular Strategic Objective 5, “Increase the Resilience of Livelihoods to Threats and Crises”).
- FAO’s five regional Priority Areas (in particular Priority Area E, “Preparedness for, and Response to, Food and Agriculture Emergencies”).
- FAO/Ministries of Agriculture CPFs for Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.
- FAO’s Regional Initiatives for Food Security and Nutrition, Sustainable Small-scale Agriculture and Water Scarcity.
- Food and agriculture sector response plans of the December 2013 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan.
- “Essential needs and services for refugees (including food security)” and “addressing needs of host communities (including safety nets, livelihoods and employment)” strategic response priorities of the December 2013 sixth Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6).
- Draft United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)-led “Comprehensive Regional Strategy – Dealing with the Effects of the Syria Crisis” (December 2013).
- Draft United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-led (regional) “Resilience-based Development Response” (November 2013).
- The intervention response for “livelihoods and employment (including food security)” of the UNDP-led Host Community Support Platform’s “National Resilience Plan” for Jordan (January 2014).
- The “Lebanon Host Community Support Programme and Community Social Development Project” of the World Bank-led “Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict” (November 2013).

1. INTRODUCTION

The humanitarian situation in Syria is of grave concern, with domestic, regional and growing international consequences. As the conflict enters its fourth year, insecurity, generalized violence and specific persecution continue to force the people of Syria to seek safety and protection elsewhere, both inside the country and in neighbouring countries. In December 2013, the United Nations (UN) estimated that more than 12 million Syrians were in need of humanitarian assistance, including 6.5 million who are internally displaced (which includes at least 235 000 Palestinian refugees); 2.2 million who are registered as refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey; hundreds of thousands who may not have registered or became refugees “*sur place*”; and Palestinian, Lebanese and other refugees displaced from Syria.

Negative impacts on food security are witnessed in several parts of Syria, and this, combined with deteriorating underlying factors such as water, sanitation and healthcare services, has contributed to a growing risk of malnutrition among women and children. There are critical gaps in essential healthcare delivery, particularly in trauma care, primary healthcare and reproductive healthcare services. The decreasing availability of and access to safe water needs to be urgently addressed in conjunction with poor sanitation and hygiene practices, which can increase the risk of an outbreak in communicable diseases. Psychosocial distress and mental health concerns, the erosion of livelihoods, asset losses and deteriorating coping mechanisms also urgently need to be addressed. The shortage of adequate and dignified shelter and basic household items remains a major concern, as is hindered access to education, falling enrolment rates and the availability of safe learning spaces.

The conflict and its spillover effects are affecting economic, social and human development, most dramatically inside Syria, but also in the neighbouring countries (Map 1). The displacement of millions of refugees and the shock of the surge in overall demographic numbers have had a considerable impact on the economies of the countries and communities affected, most notably in Lebanon and Jordan where refugees account for 18 and 10 percent of the overall population, respectively. The protracted situation of the crisis and the large numbers of refugees in northern Jordan, eastern and northern Lebanon and the Kurdistan region of Iraq in particular are negatively affecting the food security, livelihoods, health and cohesion of those countries. Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey have always been welcoming and hospitable to their neighbours, and continue to be so. However, with such high numbers entering parts of those countries and staying on indefinitely, this is now starting to cause friction and tension among the host communities and the Syrian refugees.

Map 1. The Near East “subregion” affected by the Syria crisis



The conflict and the related refugee crisis have drawn a strong humanitarian response. To date, the response has successfully ensured that millions of refugees are sheltered, fed and supported with essential assistance. Their conditions, while far from ideal, have been stabilized. Yet the crisis continues to generate fresh challenges. As outlined above, violent conflict and insecurity are predicted to result in large-scale displacement during 2014, adding to the existing demands of a complex and evolving refugee situation. The increasing stress on local living conditions has changed the emphasis within response planning of national and international humanitarian and development agencies due to a mounting realization that adequate refugee protection cannot be maintained without enhancing social cohesion and addressing investment in local infrastructure, economy and social systems. The early and unprecedented engagement of development agencies in the Syrian refugee emergency also reflects an understanding that longer-term, more comprehensive assistance is required to achieve stability and build resilience.

Food and nutrition security, livelihood opportunities and access to services for internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and host communities need to be addressed on an equitable basis. Sustainable and meaningful stabilization in affected areas of Syria and its neighbouring countries must ensure conflict-sensitive programming and prioritization of the crisis recovery needs. Early economic revitalization and livelihood strategies are critical to stabilize the current socio-economic balance and rapidly provide incomes to sustain food and nutrition security, livelihoods and recovery, while simultaneously addressing social cohesion in the communities. Livelihood strategies complement the macro-economic and active labour market policies being planned with a longer-term timeframe. Areas with the highest concentration of refugees are among the poorest and most under-served governorates and regions of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Even before the crisis, social services, infrastructure and livelihood opportunities were inadequate.

While the humanitarian response in Syria and its neighbouring countries is focusing on catering to the humanitarian needs of IDPs and refugees and the associated emergency needs of the host communities, development assistance is required to focus on the short-, medium- and longer-term investments supporting the resilience of individuals, host communities and the society at large, while maintaining social and economic stability. A more in-depth analysis of the “relief”, “recovery” and “development” needs of the agriculture sector and rural populations of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, especially those located in governorates and regions hosting the majority of Syrian refugees, is therefore required.

In 2012, the Ministries of Agriculture of the Governments of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) jointly prepared Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs)³, which presented the broad commitment of FAO – subject to the availability of the required funding – to assist the Ministries in their efforts to achieve development objectives as articulated in respective national policies and strategies for agricultural development. In February and March 2013, FAO undertook a rapid agricultural livelihoods and food security impact assessment and prepared an initial response plan for the Syria crisis in the neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. The documents were prepared through countrywide stakeholder consultations and in line with the respective countries’ United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and FAO’s Strategic Framework, 2010–2019 (Annex 1).

It is against this background that, in November 2013, the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa fielded agricultural programming missions to Jordan and Lebanon with the objectives of: (i) providing a Syria crisis and resilience perspective to the 2012 CPFs; (ii) updating and expanding the Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment and Response Plan for the Syria Crisis in the Neighbouring Countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (March 2013); and (iii) developing FAO’s Subregional Strategy and Action Plan for Resilient Livelihoods for

³ In the case of Iraq, the CPF is represented by a “Road Map for Agriculture in Iraq”.

Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis”. Further details are provided in Annex 1.

As the UN agency with the global mandate for food and nutrition security, agricultural development and natural resource management, FAO played an integral part in preparing the 2014 Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Response Plan (SHARP) and the 2014 sixth Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6). Both SHARP and RRP6 address protection and humanitarian needs of affected populations and IDPs inside Syria and refugees and host communities in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, as well as others in need of international protection and assistance. Humanitarian partners are committed to ensuring that assistance equitably addresses needs of people of concern residing in camps, informal settlements and other rural or urban areas. Their objectives are designed to ensure meaningful participation of communities, promote community-based protection and provide support to vulnerable individuals, host communities and municipalities, complementing or supporting national government-led responses. Further details of SHARP and RRP6 are provided in Annex 2.

The FAO Representations in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey and the FAO Programme in Iraq also provided situation updates and “intervention options” as part of the planning process for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)-led draft “Towards a Comprehensive Regional Strategy – Dealing with the Effects of the Syria Crisis” (December, 2013). Similarly, the FAO Representation in Jordan, in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), World Food Programme (WFP) and Ministries of Agriculture and Labour, played an integral part in assessing the needs and developing a response plan for the livelihoods and employment “sector” for the Government of Jordan (Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation) Host Community Support Platform’s “National Resilience Plan, 2014–2016” (January 2014)⁴. Moreover, the FAO Representation in Lebanon supported the World Bank in assessing the economic and social impact and preparing employment, livelihood, poverty and social safety net interventions for the “Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict” (November 2013). Further details of the OCHA, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and World Bank-led response plans are provided in Annex 2.

This “Subregional Strategy and Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis”⁵ (referred to in this document as the “*FAO Subregional Strategy and Action Plan*”) has been prepared as a compilation of the aforementioned FAO response/intervention options through further stakeholder consultations in Amman, Beirut and Ankara, and in accordance with the Organization’s five Strategic Objectives (in particular the new Strategic Objective 5: “Increase the Resilience of Livelihoods to Threats and Crises”), five Regional Priority Areas (in particular Priority Area E: “Preparedness for, and Response to, Food and Agriculture Emergencies”), three Regional Initiatives and CPFs (Annex 1).

⁴ An initial national response under the UNDP-led draft regional “Resilience-based Development Response to the Syria Crisis” (November 2013).

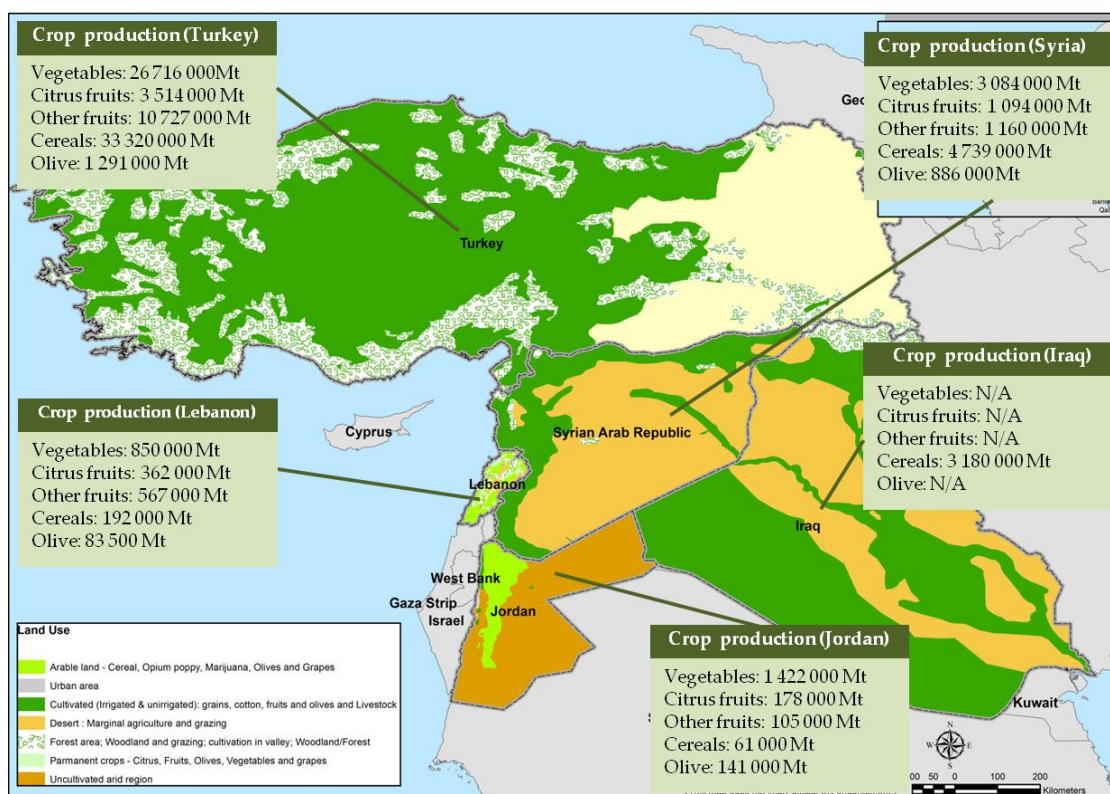
⁵ i.e. impoverished residents and IDPs inside Syria, and Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian refugees (i.e. “camp” and “non-camp”) and host communities in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

2. PRE-CRISIS SITUATION IN COUNTRIES OF THE SUBREGION

2.1 Farming systems

Farming systems in Syria and its neighbouring countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are mainly fragmented; cultivated by landless, marginal and small-scale farmers; and highly dependent on the scarce availability of land, water and pasture. Crop and livestock productivity of the subregion is regarded as low by global standards (Map 2).

Map 2. Agricultural production of Syria and its neighbouring countries



(i) Syria

Syria is distinguished by five farming systems: (i) coastal intensive irrigated farming (1 percent of land area) – smallholder citrus, field vegetables and greenhouse crop production; (ii) hilly and mountainous farming (6 percent) – smallholder tree crops (e.g. apples, cherries and olives), tobacco and high off-farm incomes; (iii) northern and northeastern plains (25 percent) – medium and large-scale rainfed and irrigated wheat (in particular) and cotton, barley and lentil production; (iv) southern semi-arid mountains and plains (6 percent) – small and medium-scale rainfed wheat and barley, legumes, chickpea, tree crops and field vegetable production, with easy access to the national market of Damascus and international markets of neighbouring countries; and (v) pastoral and agropastoral farming (55 percent) – nomadic, semi nomadic/transhumance and settled/semi-extensive sheep rearing, high-risk cereal cultivation and oasis irrigation of cotton and wheat, including the Badia rangelands shared with northern Iraq and northeastern Jordan.

(ii) Jordan

Owing to low rainfall, soil infertility and limited irrigation water, only 420 000 ha of land is suitable for crop production (i.e. 4 percent of the total land area), of which 340 000 ha is cultivated and 40 000 ha is irrigated. More than half of the cropped area (i.e. 180 000 ha) is under fruit tree orchards.

Under rainfed conditions, 140 000 ha are planted with winter crops (e.g. wheat, barley, lentils, broad beans and forage crops). The area planted with irrigated summer crops (i.e. chickpea, sesame, maize and tobacco) is around 8 100 ha, and 8 000 ha is planted with irrigated vegetables (e.g. tomato, eggplant, squash, cucumber, cabbage, onion, potato, watermelon, lettuce, spinach, okra and banana) – the latter predominantly in the Jordan Valley (i.e. Balqa, Irbid and Karak Governorates).

The northeastern border areas (the Badia, western central areas and western areas) most affected by the Syria crisis are characterized by: (i) the Badia (semi-desert) rangelands, where the significant land use is nomadic pastoralism; (ii) the western central areas (where the Zaatari Syrian Refugee camp is located), which are arid and predominantly under barley cultivation, irrigated fruit trees and pastoralism; and (iii) the western areas (around Irbid city), which are semi-arid and predominantly under wheat cultivation and irrigated vegetables with some fruit trees. In 2012, the total number of sheep, goats and cattle in Jordan amounted to more than 3 million, of which 2.1 million were located in Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Jarash, Mafraq and Zarqa Governorates, which host the majority of Syrian refugees.

(iii) Lebanon

The total cropped area of Lebanon is 231 000 ha, half of which is irrigated. Livestock production (i.e. cattle, sheep, goats and pigs) is being practiced by 15 800 farmers, of which nearly one-fifth are landless. The northern parts (mostly Akkar district of North Lebanon Governorate) and eastern parts (mostly Bekaa Governorate) of the country are the rural areas most affected by the Syria crisis. They represent 69 percent (160 000 ha) of the country's cultivated area, 76 percent (88 000 ha) of the irrigated land and more than half (170 000 farming families) of the farming population. Almost 70 percent of the dairy herds, 87 percent of sheep and 69 percent of goat herds are found in the affected areas – owned by nearly 10 000 livestock farmers.

The northern parts are characterized by terraced hillsides with fruit trees, in particular olives, and smallholder mixed farms of irrigated tobacco, citrus, vegetables, cereals and legumes, sometimes with a few dairy cattle on the plains. Akkar is also renowned for its poultry farms, producing more than 60 percent of Lebanon's eggs. The northern Bekaa Valley of Hermel and eastern Baalbeck districts is characterised by arid rangelands where large populations of small ruminants are concentrated, with nomadic, semi-nomadic and sedentary herding systems. Where irrigation is available (from small mountain springs), almond and apricot orchards and small dairy farms with forage crops are the typical farming systems. The central Bekaa Valley of western Baalbeck district and Bekaa Governorate constitutes the major irrigated agricultural area of the country, with a mosaic of farming systems producing cereals, legumes, winter vegetables, potatoes, grapes, fruit trees, milk and fish.

(iv) Iraq

About a quarter of the total land area of Iraq is suitable for intensive cultivation and animal raising; much of the remainder is the "western desert". A considerable part of Iraq's agricultural land lies in the hilly and mountainous northwestern parts of Iraqi Kurdistan and along the Tigris and the Euphrates flood plains of the southeast.

Two different agro-ecological zones are found in border areas with Syria. In northeastern Iraq, Kurdistan's agricultural wealth of high-grade pasturelands has long made it suitable for a pastoralist economy, but it is equally suitable in many areas for intensive agriculture, in particular rainfed barley and wheat production. The pasturelands have remained in reasonably good condition and continue to be a productive source of animal feed. The rich pastures have always ensured that in all historical periods, regardless of how dominant the agriculture sector, there have been nomadic herdsmen exploiting this economic niche to its fullest. Despite its potential, agriculture is at present declining significantly in Kurdistan Regional Governorate. Northwestern Iraq is characterized by very low and erratic rainfall, and is only used for late winter and early spring grazing of nomadic sheep, goats and camels (as part of the Badia rangelands adjoining Jordan and Syria).

(v) Egypt

Less than 4 percent of Egypt's land cover is agricultural land, i.e. the irrigated flood plain and Delta of the River Nile. Egypt's main crops are rice, maize (half of which is grown for fodder), cotton and sugarcane. Food legumes, forage crops, citrus and vegetables (particularly beans), Egyptian clover, oranges, tomatoes and potatoes are also important crops. Total populations of buffaloes, cattle, goats and sheep are similar (i.e. 4 to 5 million of each) – reared under smallholder traditional extensive (including nomadic and semi-nomadic) systems, semi-intensive mixed farms and intensive industrial systems in peri-urban areas (including 10 percent of cattle). Goat populations are more concentrated in the Upper Egypt and Middle Egypt regions, and sheep in the Upper Egypt and Western Delta regions, while buffaloes and cattle are concentrated in the Middle Egypt and Middle Delta regions. Egypt has a total population of some 100 million chickens, 60 percent of which are reared in intensive units of peri-urban areas.

(vi) Turkey

Turkey enjoys a comparative advantage in many agricultural products and exports cereals, pulses, industrial crops, sugar, nuts, fresh and dried fruits, vegetables, olive oil and livestock products. The main export markets are the European Union and the United States of America – to which Turkey primarily exports dried fruit and nuts, cotton and tobacco – and the Middle East, which primarily imports fresh fruit, vegetables and meat. With an annual production of some 33 million tonnes of cereals, Turkey is largely (close to 90 percent) self-sufficient, and its import requirement does not exceed 4 million tonnes per year. The influx of some 300 000 Syrian refugees does not significantly change the national food balance.

In Antioch, Gaziantep and Kilis Provinces, where a large number of refugees settled, agriculture is dominated by rainfed and irrigated cereals, olives, cotton, citrus and maize. Livestock is less important. However, the region is significantly important for goat-meat production. The provinces of Urfa and Mardin (southeastern Anatolia region) are characterized by large fertile plains in southern parts neighbouring Syria. These provinces also benefit from Turkey's largest irrigation scheme, the ongoing South-Eastern Anatolia Project. Agriculture is dominated by rainfed cereals and food legumes, as well as irrigated cotton. Despite its agricultural potential, the poorest people live in the country's least developed areas in eastern and southeastern Anatolia, and parts of the coastal regions on the Black Sea. The poorest rural people are self-employed and unpaid family workers. They include small-scale farmers and their households, and people who live in remote and isolated areas. Women and unemployed young people are particularly disadvantaged. Incomes in those areas are 40 percent lower than the national average.

2.2 Importance of agriculture to the national economies

While the Syrian conflict is affecting all sectors in neighbouring countries, its impact on the agriculture and food sector is particularly important, being the main source of income for a large proportion of the populations, particularly for the poorest segments in rural areas and vulnerable communities. The share of the sector in the gross domestic product (GDP) is generally low, ranging from nearly 4 percent in Jordan and Lebanon to 27 percent in Syria, but it employs the majority of the rural and poorest populations in all countries (Table 1). More importantly, agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the majority of communities hosting Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. With its strong forward and backward linkages within the rural sector and with other sectors of the economy, agriculture is a major source of stimulus for growth and income generation in the affected areas. Despite its small contribution to GDP, the sector also plays a central role in socio-political stability and protection of the environment, including biodiversity of rangelands and sustained management of natural resources.

Table 1. Agricultural GDP and rural populations of the subregion

Country	Agriculture sector percentage of annual GDP	Economically active population in agriculture (percentage of total population)	Rural population (percentage of total population)
Egypt	13.9	32	56
Iraq	N/A	23	33
Jordan	3.9	6	17
Lebanon	4.0	15	13
Syria	27.0	< 20	45
Turkey	9.1	24	29

The share of agriculture in the national GDP of Syria has increased considerably from 19 to 22 percent between 2004 and 2006, 17 percent in 2007 and 2008 (which were drought years) and 23 percent in 2010 to 27 percent in 2012 because of good weather in 2011 and 2012 and the demise of other sectors as a consequence of the protracted conflict.

A lopsided and non-diversified economic outlook pursued by governments of the subregion has focused on developing industry and services, leaving the agriculture sector underinvested. The implications of single sector dependence and the underutilization of land and agriculture are evident in the high rates of rural unemployment across the subregion. For example, rural Jordan's rich earn less than 10 percent of their total per capita income from agriculture and more than 55 percent of it from non-farm sources. The lack of financial and technical resources provided by the Government of Jordan for national agricultural research systems and extension services in support of marginal and small-scale farmers towards new and improved technologies already places this group of vulnerable people at a high risk of food insecurity and increased poverty.

2.3 Rural poverty

Rural areas witness higher incidences of extreme poverty correlated with the low-income potential of agriculture. While the percentage of total populations below national poverty lines ranges from 20 to 30 percent (with the exception of Jordan and pre-crisis Syria), the percentage of rural populations below national poverty lines ranges from 30 to 40 percent (Table 2). However, throughout the subregion there are large disparities within governorates affected by the Syria crisis, e.g. 53 percent in North Lebanon and 40 percent in Bekaa of Lebanon and 28 percent in Amman, 17 percent in Irbid and 8 percent in Mafraq of Jordan. On the other hand, poverty incidence from the seven affected governorates in Jordan ranges from a high of 23 percent in Mafraq and a low of 9 percent in Amman – meaning that the largest number of poor is not necessarily found in the poorest governorates. This means that any socio-economic baseline surveys and needs assessments required for emergency responses and development interventions would need to identify the highest incidences of “poverty pockets”. These tend to be found in rural areas at “subdistrict” levels, where some are located in isolated and remote areas, while others are merely in areas with a poor resource base (e.g. Ninawa in Iraq, Mafraq in Jordan, Akkar in Lebanon and southeast Anatolia in Turkey).

Table 2. Poverty levels and food insecurity in the subregion

Country	Percentage of total population below national poverty level	Percentage of rural population below national poverty level	Percentage of total population food insecure
Egypt	25.1	30.0	17.0
Iraq	22.9	39.3	5.7
Jordan	13.3	19.0	0.3
Lebanon	28.5	N/A	8.0
Syria (pre-crisis)	11.4	25.3	18.2*
Turkey	18.1	35.0	N/A

* After three years of drought (2008–2010).

In 2007, FAO concluded that the high incidences of rural poverty are mainly due to limited sources of family income and employment; large family sizes and high dependency rates; low rainfall and extremely limited water resources; fragmentation and small size of landholdings (whereby some three-quarter farmers in Jordan are growing crops and/or rearing livestock on farms of less than 5 ha and considered as landless, marginal and small scale); low levels of agricultural technology and inefficient extension and animal health services; and limited access to rural finance⁶.

FAO also concluded that the most vulnerable groups include large rural households headed by illiterate or poorly educated people, households headed by women, households with sick or elderly people and households that do not own land or have very little land. Families headed by women tend to be among the poorest of the poor. They have fewer economic assets than households headed by men. For example, only 44 percent of households headed by women in Jordan own agricultural land and 30 percent own livestock, while 68 percent of households headed by men own land and 36 percent of them own livestock. Similarly, only 21 percent of women who are heads of households receive loans for agricultural development and 9 percent for income-generating activities, compared to 43 and 14 percent, respectively, of men who are heads of households.

Female and youth unemployment rate is incredibly high in the subregion. Nearly one in every three youth between ages 15 and 30 is unemployed, and more than half of young girls are inactive. Women face several barriers to employment: their family's objection and mobility restrictions being the most pronounced. Youth unemployment in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey is a major challenge: more than half of the unemployed are youth under 25. Unemployment is particularly common among Palestinian refugee women, making them more vulnerable to poverty and food insecurity. The same problem is expected to affect Syrian refugee women hosted by rural communities in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

2.4 Food security

Apart from the status of refugees, information on food and nutrition security in the subregion is scarce, especially in Turkey. Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon are food deficit countries, with more than three-quarters of their food being imported. They import most of their cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, sugar requirements, much of their beef and lamb meat and some fruits and vegetables. However, the affected areas of the subregion tend to be more self-sufficient in dairy products, poultry, eggs and most of their fruit and vegetable requirements. Despite an absence of food aid records, Turkey is considered a food-secure country.

With the exception of Egypt and pre-crisis Syria, levels of food insecurity in the subregion are relatively low, in particular in Jordan (Table 2). While food availability is not necessarily a challenge in the subregion, food access and food utilization are concerns in the poorest of rural areas. The highest rates of food insecurity tend to be registered in the rural areas of Ninawa of Al Anbar in Iraq, Mafraq and Zarqa in Jordan, Akkar and north Bekaa in Lebanon, and southeast and east Anatolia in Turkey. Female-headed households are twice as likely to be food insecure as households headed by males. The main reasons for food insecurity in poor areas of the subregion are limited purchasing power and lack of dietary diversity. With food constituting a high percentage of their consumption profile, the poor were the most affected by the food price increase in 2008 and 2009, and are the group most vulnerable to future shocks. Malnutrition and food intake deficiency are major challenges to food security for the subregion's poor. Chronic malnutrition is deeper in rural areas where incidence of malnutrition and stunting in smallholder farming communities of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon ranges from 25 to 35 percent, compared to between 10 and 20 percent in urban areas.

⁶ FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); The Status of Rural Poverty in the Near East and North Africa; 2007.

3. IMPACT OF THE SYRIA CRISIS IN COUNTRIES OF THE SUBREGION

3.1 Data availability

One of the most serious shortcomings with regards to proper planning for emergency, recovery and development interventions is the *de facto* absence of comprehensively reliable information and, especially, quantitative data – other than the generic macro-economic situation analyses and annual agricultural statistics published by respective Department of Statistics and FAO/WFP joint needs assessments in Syria – to assess the exact impact of the various facets of the unfolding Syria crisis on the rural settings and agriculture sectors of the neighbouring countries. Three years into the crisis, the quality and quantity of credible, timely and decision-focused agricultural livelihood, food and nutrition security and natural resource use information (from individual, institutional and ecosystem perspectives) related to the Syria crisis remain extremely low. To date, it has not been possible to gain a detailed picture of household income, food availability, access and utilization, nor of land, water and forestry use and status of livelihood assets in the affected areas, thus presenting a major problem for informed decision-making. Furthermore, and directly related, is the absence of a food and nutrition security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources information and analysis network/system to continuously monitor and assess related situations and, thereby, *inter alia*, anticipate potential accentuation of threats and crises requiring appropriate action.

3.2 Food security and agricultural livelihoods in Syria

FAO and WFP now estimate that 6.3 million people inside Syria are in critical need of food and agricultural assistance, an increase of more than 50 percent since June 2013. Food security conditions have been further compromised by the increasingly damaging impact of the crisis and further erosion of household capacities to meet basic needs and to cope with the situation, i.e.: (i) even higher levels of population displacement and significant disruptions to economic activity across various sectors, leading to massive job losses and deepening poverty; (ii) declining crop production and depletion of livestock; and (iii) the steep depreciation of the Syrian currency and rapid rise in inflation.

Reduced agricultural production, impediments to marketing available produce and disrupted capacities to import sufficient food to meet domestic demand have all limited food availability. A joint WFP/FAO Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM)⁷, undertaken in May and June 2013, found that less land was cultivated for cereal production relative to the average of previous years owing to: increased production costs; reduced availability of key inputs (including equipment, seeds, fertilizers and labour); crisis-related interruption of agricultural activities; physical damage to land and farming equipment; and internal population displacement. Both pre- and post-harvest grain losses exceeded previous years, primarily the result of damage to harvesting equipment and storage structures. Less than one-third of government wheat collection centres were found to be operational. It is estimated that the crisis has cost close to USD 2 billion in agricultural losses thus far.

The CFSAM report projected the 2013 wheat harvest to yield up to 2.4 million tonnes, i.e. a 40 percent reduction compared to the average annual production since the year 2000, leaving the cereal balance sheet in shortfall, even after expected imports. A reduced harvest, combined with limited import capacity, will leave the country unable to meet domestic consumption demands. As damage continues to be inflicted on agricultural infrastructure, this is likely to endanger production beyond the current season, necessitating longer-term measures to rebuild food production systems.

The livestock subsector has been severely affected by reduced access to feed sources, high animal feed costs and, despite government efforts, reduced veterinary supplies and services. CFSAM estimated sheep and cattle losses of up to 35 and 25 percent, respectively, while poultry production is estimated to be down by more than 50 percent. Unable to cope, vulnerable herders are selling their

⁷ Special Report: Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to the Syrian Arab Republic, WFP and FAO, at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (MoAAR): July 2013.

animals below market value, losing a critical source of both food and income. Reduced access to veterinary services, combined with uncontrolled livestock movement, poses severe threats to animal and human health within Syria and across the country's borders due to the increasing spread of transmissible animal diseases and zoonoses.

The deepening economic crisis, depreciation of the currency, rising inflation and the ongoing impact of unilateral economic measures have curtailed any expansion of producer and consumer subsidy schemes. For farming families affected by the crisis, there are currently very few social safety nets upon which they can rely, with basic social services also affected by significant damage to public infrastructure. While still broadly functional, the productive capacities of public bakeries that supply subsidized bread to a large proportion of the population are now declining amid physical damage to mills and bakeries, and drastically reduced food and non-food inputs (concentrated in those governorates subject to the ongoing crisis). With road transport increasingly expensive and insecure, the movement of both food and non-food cargo to certain areas has been hampered. One result has been localized breakdowns of the food supply chain, suddenly and drastically compromising availability in some areas.

Increased population displacement has contributed to high and rising poverty as a result of disrupted livelihoods, lost productive assets and damage to infrastructure. With poverty levels believed to have doubled since 2010, approximately 60 percent of Syria's current population (or 12.6 million people) is now poor, and of these 4.4 million are categorized as extremely poor. The unemployment rate reached an estimated 49 percent in mid-2013, a dramatic increase from the average 8 percent observed over the past seven years. This translates into 2.3 million jobs lost since the start of the crisis, mainly in the agriculture and transportation sectors, compromising the wellbeing of approximately 9.6 million people. Agriculture-dependent livelihoods have been particularly affected; at least 50 percent of jobs in the poultry subsector and 70 percent in the cotton industry had been lost by mid-2013. Preliminary results from the WFP and FAO-led Joint Rapid Food Needs Assessment (JRFNA) from October/November 2013 suggest that some 8 percent of families have lost their primary breadwinner, with about 11 percent now headed by women.

Job losses and lower incomes have significantly reduced household purchasing power. Private consumption is believed to have diminished by almost 50 percent during the second quarter of 2013, relative to the same period of 2012. High and rising inflation has also been a key cause. CFSAM found that by June 2013, the real price of wheat flour had almost doubled since 2011; a similar trend was observed for non-food items, including diesel, for which a 200 percent increase was experienced by January 2013. The Government's reduction of fuel subsidies and the high cost of electricity have left poor rural families unable to meet their energy needs, a critical concern for the 2013/14 winter seasons. Since then, food prices have been subject to further inflation, indicative of the extent to which markets have been disrupted. According to CFSAM findings, food price inflation was as high as 100 percent in some areas. WFP market price monitoring data suggests that the prices of basic imported commodities, such as cooking oil, rice and lentils, increased by 30–60 percent between June and August 2013 alone. Prices of subsidized foods, such as sugar, were also found to have increased substantially. The implication for poor households is that a majority of available income is spent on food, as confirmed by WFP programme monitoring and preliminary JRFNA findings.

Both the quantity and quality of foods consumed by the most vulnerable have declined. More than 90 percent of respondents interviewed by the JRFNA reported that Syrians have changed their eating habits since last year. Many households reported a decrease in food intake (to an average of only two meals per day) and opting for cheaper and less nutritious foods. A majority of WFP beneficiaries consume carbohydrates almost exclusively and have limited consumption of fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy products, due to their high cost. While comprehensive and recent nutrition data is unavailable, alarming deteriorations in the nutrition situation have recently been reported. Women and children with particular nutritional needs are expected to be the worst affected. In many areas, it has been observed that infants and young children are not receiving adequate nutritious foods needed for optimal growth and development, with most families reportedly limiting the amount of

complementary foods provided at this critical stage to only one meal per day. There have been reports of children admitted to health centres demonstrating symptoms of malnutrition, while some child deaths have been attributed to malnutrition in inaccessible areas that could not be reached with humanitarian assistance.

Further erosion of coping mechanisms and shrinking resilience has been observed by WFP programme monitoring. Symptoms include: selling assets, withdrawing children from schools and requesting assistance from friends and relatives. Furthermore, there is evidence that the number of coping strategies adopted has decreased over time, suggesting that families are exhausting their resources and have increasingly few options to meet their needs.

Supplemented by information from CFSAM, preliminary results from JRFNA and other sources, the most vulnerable groups in greatest need of assistance include: (i) IDPs; (ii) unemployed and urban poor; (iii) casual labourers; (iv) host communities; and (v) small-scale farmers and herders. It is further expected that those typically most vulnerable to the effects of crisis and displacement will also have suffered disproportionately in Syria. These include: children (particularly those below the age of five), women, the elderly, people with disabilities and the chronically sick. Multiple displacements, combined with high levels of underlying poverty, have left Palestinian refugees also in need of priority assistance. Geographically, needs persist in all 14 governorates across the country. Disproportionate increases in vulnerability have taken place in areas worst affected by the current events, subsequent population displacement and physical damage to infrastructure, as well as in hard to reach areas where humanitarian deliveries have been greatly challenged.

3.3 Situation and overview of refugees, returnees and host communities in neighbouring countries

Table 3 provides an overview of the 3 million Syrian and Palestinian refugee and Lebanese and Iraqi/Kurdish returnee populations in the Near East region. Added to the 6.5 million IDPs within Syria, there is a total of nearly 10 million people directly affected by the Syria crisis (not including host communities).

Table 3. Populations of Syrian refugees and returnees

Country	Total population (million)	Refugees living in camps	Refugees living with host communities	Palestinian refugees from Syria	Returnees
Egypt	82.0	0	145 000†	2 000	negligible
Iraq	31.0*	82 000	123 000	negligible	70 000
Jordan	6.5	110 000	440 000	5 000	not estimated
Lebanon	4.2	0	900 000‡	51 000	41 000
Turkey	75.6	205 000	800 000§	not estimated	not estimated

* The population of the Kurdish region, where the majority of Syrian refugees are located, is 3.8 million.

† The Government of Egypt estimates the Syrian population in Egypt to be between 250 000 to 300 000.

‡ The Government of Lebanon estimates the Syrian population in Lebanon to be 1.5 million.

§ The Government of Turkey estimates only 300 000 non-camp refugees have been registered.

3.3.1 Status of refugees and returnees in neighbouring countries

Nearly two-thirds of refugees and returnees are located outside of refugee camps (including 100 percent in Egypt and Lebanon) being hosted by communities who themselves are increasingly under threat of food insecurity and poverty. It is further estimated that 60 percent of these are located in small rural towns and villages where agriculture is the primary source of livelihood. Syrian refugees have generally been welcomed by host governments (including free access to health services and education), and many local communities continue to extend hospitality and assistance in spite of their own often limited means. However, since mid-2013, Egypt and Iraq have been placing restrictions on the entry and movement of Syrian refugees. Significant numbers of Syrian refugees are

working primarily in the construction, agriculture and service sectors of the subregion, although without work permits that are required by national authorities. Competition for jobs has driven wages down, in parallel to increases in prices for basic necessities, fuel and rental accommodation.

Recent studies commissioned by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WFP in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, and undertaken by REACH⁸, concluded that more than 60 percent of Syrian refugees living in the host communities reported that they did not have adequate access to food – with some governorates reporting more than 80 percent affected. The main challenges reported by refugees in accessing adequate food supplies were the cost of food and a lack of cash. Moreover, more than half of the refugee families have limited food and non-food coping strategies (such as more dependence on less expensive food, reduction in number of meals/portions per day, spending savings, buying food on credit basis and reducing non-food expenditures), thus negatively affecting their living conditions and food security in the medium to long term.

The same studies also concluded that half of the heads of refugee households are unemployed, while a quarter of households rely on seasonal economic activities and casual labour for income, with some governorates reporting 70 percent of heads of households unemployed. The three main challenges to accessing livelihoods as perceived by more than three-quarters of refugees are: scarcity of employment opportunities; lack of work permits; and low wages. The age profiles of vulnerable Syrians is also of concern, whereby more than half are under 17 years of age and 38 percent are younger than 11. Some of these children have been separated from their parents and some are now born as refugees.

(i) Egypt

Syrian refugees are currently living in three main urban areas in Egypt: Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta, as well as other smaller urban areas spread throughout the country. Tensions between host and refugee communities are increasing. This, in turn, could have a negative impact on the possibilities for Syrian refugees to access basic services. Lately, UNHCR has noted a decrease in the interest of Syrians in registering and an increase in the number of refugees closing their files, as well as increasing reports of departures by sea to Europe. Furthermore, the loss of livelihood opportunities is leading to increased levels of vulnerability among Syrians.

(ii) Iraq

Iraq has three Syrian refugee camps: Domiz in Dohuk and Al Qaim and Al Waleed in Anbar. The highest concentrations of Syrian refugees living in Iraqi rural and urban non-camp settings are in Anbar Governorate and the three Kurdistan Regional Governorates of Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah. Many of these are highly vulnerable, living in substandard unfinished houses and apartments. Mounting security concerns and the straining of local public services are key concerns for the Kurdistan Regional Government as a result of the increasing number of refugees accessing such services. Furthermore, the presence of the refugees has impacted the social, economic and financial perspective of the Kurdistan region for its own population. To mitigate the risk of increased tension between the refugees and their host communities, the refugees' needs should be, in part, addressed comprehensively through a development lens, taking into account needs of the host population.

⁸ REACH started operations in 2010 as a joint initiative of two international Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) –IMPACT Initiatives and the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) – and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research Operational Satellite Applications Programme.

(iii) Jordan

Jordan has a population of 6.5 million people. The current Syrian refugee population constitutes an additional 8 percent to this population. Jordan has two Syrian refugee camps: Zaatari and the recently opened Azraq. The highest concentrations of Syrian refugees living in rural and urban non-camp settings of Jordan are in the seven northern governorates of Amman (25 percent), Irbid (23 percent), Mafraq (11 percent), Zarqa (8 percent), Balqa (3 percent), Jerash (2 percent) and Ajloun (2 percent). Syrians in urban areas purchase water, electricity and shelter through the Jordanian market, and are granted access to public services, including health and education. This has resulted in additional pressure on Jordan's scarce resources, in particular water supplies. The surge in population has stretched the ability of local authorities to maintain service delivery, resulting in overcrowded labour markets and induced considerable additional public expenditures.

(iv) Lebanon

In Lebanon, refugees have been permitted to settle throughout the country and are found across 1 500 localities – mainly concentrated in the poorest areas of the country – in particular the Governorates of Bekaa (33 percent), North (29 percent), Beirut and Mount Lebanon (25 percent) and South (12 percent). Some two-thirds of refugees rent basic apartments or homes, half of which are overcrowded with several refugee families sharing limited space. Over one-third live in substandard and insecure conditions in makeshift shelters, tents, unfinished buildings, garages, warehouses and worksites. Access to clean water and sanitation, and protection from the elements, in particular flooding, are constant challenges. Many refugees and returnees from farming backgrounds have brought their livestock with them – also requiring shelter and water. Palestinian refugees from Syria must mainly find shelter in overcrowded Palestine refugee camps or their surroundings.

The Government of Lebanon continues to allow Syrians access to public services, although the latter are increasingly being overwhelmed by rising demand. Shortages in water and electricity, as well as shortcomings in water quality and solid waste management, have become more commonplace. Pressure on water supply, waste management, land use, accommodation, etc. is leading to rising tensions, destabilizing already fragile settings. With limited livelihood opportunities, the vulnerability of refugees is increasing over time, which is leading them to resort to negative coping mechanisms.

(v) Turkey

The majority of Syrian refugees are residing in host communities with Turkish relatives or independently in Turkish cities, towns and villages mostly in the provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Sanliurfa and Mardin. The remaining are in 21 camps set up and run by the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey (AFAD), where they receive protection and assistance. The large number of Syrian refugees has overwhelmed national structures and affected their capacity to cope with the needs of the population. Continuous pressure on the existing refugee camps in Turkey will remain a challenge as the number of arrivals increases. As the number of Syrians living outside camps also increases, resources and facilities of host communities will continue to be stretched.

One out of four non-camp Syrian refugees lives in inadequate conditions or in an open area, while about 62 percent of them live together with at least seven people. Refugees living in tents and containers within camps are considered to be food secure due to the humanitarian assistance provided by WFP, the Turkish Red Crescent and AFAD. However, without this assistance the vast majority of Syrian families in camps would not be able to meet their daily food needs. The food needs of non-camp Syrians are less clear; while some families are able to afford private accommodation and meet their other daily needs, many families are becoming increasingly destitute. A small proportion of the most vulnerable non-camp families is receiving *ad hoc* assistance through existing social security structures and from NGOs.

3.3.2 Status of communities in neighbouring countries hosting refugees and returnees

There is a serious lack of information available on the effects of the Syria crisis on Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities – compared to that on Syrian refugees living in those communities. However, WFP has recently embarked on a vulnerability assessment in Jordan and FAO plans to undertake food security and livelihood analyses of Jordan and Lebanon in early 2014, in partnership with ACTED.

As mentioned earlier, host communities are primarily affected by rising prices and stretched public services due to the rapidly expanding refugee population. These developments have induced considerable losses of farm incomes, increases in costs of transportation, agricultural inputs and services and food, falling tourism and remittances and dwindling investments, particularly in those governorates bordering Syria and hosting refugees. Another key impact on the host communities has been the competition for scarce resources, resulting in rising prices for housing and food. Of particular concern are “poverty pockets” of governorates/provinces, which contain high concentrations of refugees and where at least one in five of the national population already lives below the poverty line. *For example: in Mafraq Governorate of Jordan, average rents have reportedly more than tripled from JD 50 to JD 150–200 per month and food prices have risen by 27 percent over the past year. The latter has a particularly negative impact on purchasing power as these communities on average spend 40 percent of their incomes on food items. Finally, strains are felt through reduced access to basic services and the quality of these services. All of these strains are likely to be felt most severely by the most vulnerable members of the communities and households, i.e. women, children, the elderly and the disabled.*

According to the World Bank-led Economic and Social Impact Assessment report (September 2013), the Syrian conflict is negatively impacting poverty in Lebanon; such that the number of the poor is expected to increase by an additional 170 000 individuals by the end of 2014 (over the current 1 million below the poverty line); and the already impoverished population will be pushed further into poverty. More than half of these 1.2 million affected Lebanese people are considered as being particularly vulnerable. Small-scale farmers and herders across Lebanon and particularly in the governorates of North Lebanon and Bekaa are among those most vulnerable groups due to their high poverty rates. It is estimated that 86 percent of registered refugees and 65 percent of poor Lebanese are concentrated in 215 villages across the country, primarily in the poorest districts of Akkar, Hermel and Baalbeck. The absence of effective social safety nets contributes to the vulnerability of these groups in the affected areas. The large number of Syrian refugees has indeed exacerbated the limited access of the host communities to social services and scarce resources, and increased competition for jobs. This has resulted in social tensions and fragile intercommunal relations between refugees and Lebanese communities – which are on the rise (mainly in Akkar and Bekaa).

3.4 Agricultural trade and services

Syria has a unique position as a trade crossing point in the Middle East, and is considered a port of access to Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Russia and Turkey for Middle Eastern countries and *vice versa*. Thus, Syria is a major trading partner for all its neighbouring countries. Before the conflict, Iraq, for example, used to receive one-third of Syria’s exports, while Lebanon used to ship about 20 percent of its agricultural exports to Syria. However, the crisis has disrupted agriculture and food trade in the region with negative consequences on producers and other stakeholders along the agriculture and food commodity chains. Four developments in agricultural trade flows in neighbouring countries in 2011 and 2012 are worth noting: (i) a decline in total agricultural trade; (ii) a considerable drop in bilateral agricultural trade with Syria and in transit trade through Syria; (iii) a significant change in trading routes in the region; and (iv) increased informal trade across the borders with Syria.

While there are some other factors that may contribute to the decline in agriculture and food trade, the Syria crisis and its consequences are seen as the key factor behind the decline of intraregional trade in

food and agricultural commodities during 2011 and 2012, particularly in the case of Lebanon and Jordan. Agricultural exports to Syria have shown a considerable decline in the period 2011 to 2012, exceeding 50 percent in Egypt and Turkey, and more than 25 percent in Jordan. Similarly, agricultural imports from Syria fell by more than 30 percent in 2012, compared to the average of 2009 to 2010 for Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt. Reportedly, formal trade between Syria and Turkey has declined significantly and had almost completely stopped in late 2012.

The impact of the Syria crisis has been more pronounced on neighbouring countries' agricultural trade that transit through Syria. Much of the agricultural trade (exports and imports) of Lebanon with Iraq, Turkey, Ukraine and Saudi Arabia used to take place by land through Syria. Similarly much of the bilateral agricultural trade of Jordan with Russia, Ukraine and Turkey was through Syria. Iraq, Turkey and Egypt also have a significant part of their agricultural trade with Eastern Europe, Turkey and the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) for the Arab States that go through Syria. Bilateral agricultural trade of Jordan and Lebanon with Iraq, Ukraine and Turkey have therefore fallen sharply in 2012 compared with 2010.

A major feature of agricultural trade in the subregion is the dominance of land transport mode mostly using refrigerated trucks. Most of the trading in agricultural commodities with and through Syria and its neighbouring countries is made through land routes. For Lebanon, Syria is the only land trade route to Iraq, Turkey and the Gulf, which is by far the largest market in the region. Similarly, land routes through Syria are the main outlet for agricultural trade of Jordan with Turkey and Eastern Europe. Governments of neighbouring countries have so far been able to minimize the impact on consumers and producers by finding new trade routes and absorbing some of the increased costs.

Exporters of horticultural products, in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt, are experiencing difficulties coping with the new trading routes given the high perishability of their products which are primarily shipped through refrigerated trucks. The alternative marine transportation is costly and also unsuitable for a variety of highly perishable horticultural products. *According to the Jordanian Association of Fruit and Vegetable Exporters, farmers in the Jordan Valley have lost more than 23 000 ha of vegetables as a result of export bottlenecks and the sharp increase in transport costs in 2012. Similarly, large quantities of citrus fruit, apples and olive oil could not be exported in Lebanon, resulting in great losses for farmers and traders. Informally imported products from Syria have also led to a sharp drop in local farm prices in Turkey and Lebanon, particularly for products such as olive oil, grapes and apples.*

The changes in trading routes have posed significant challenges for neighbouring countries given the associated increases in transport costs and the need for increased infrastructural capacities in terms of port facilities, storage and other logistical requirement. The change in trade routes has mostly been accompanied by changes in destination markets, which meant the need for additional investment to meet quality requirement of the new markets. In addition, the change in trade routes raised the urgent need to strengthen border food quality and safety control in ports to which agricultural trade is diverting.

The disruption in agricultural and food trade between neighbouring countries and Syria poses serious challenges to farmers and those involved in agribusiness support activities. The bulk of the agricultural inputs (i.e. seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, farm tools and machinery, animal vaccines and medicines, etc.) are imported into countries, such as Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, and prior to the crisis, were already regarded as expensive. Imports of agricultural inputs have been disrupted and costs of imports have increased in most neighbouring countries (see Section 3.8). *For example, the Price Index of Jordanian Agricultural Producers increased by 8.1 percent for the first eight months of 2013, as compared with the same period of 2012. The total price index reached 127.5 for 2013, compared with 117.9 for the same period in 2012. Moreover, Jordanian animal feed prices in 2012 increased by 22 percent for barley and 38 percent for bran, compared with the averages of 2009/10, mostly because of increase transportation cost as a result of the change in trading route from Tartous in Syria to the new ports of Al-Aqaba and Haifa. The change in import routes of feed*

has increased prices, and affected the available quantities of meat, poultry and eggs. This problem has been compounded by increasing demand, which again, has resulted in price hikes in the local markets.

The situation has been worse for farmers located in Syrian border areas (e.g. Ninawa and Dohuk in Iraq, Irbid and Mafraq in Jordan and the Bekaa in Lebanon) who, prior to the crisis, benefited from agricultural inputs (as well as veterinary services), which were heavily subsidized in Syria and illegally traded into Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey in large quantities.

Syria's research system and extension and veterinary services, unlike Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, were heavily supported by international organizations and UN agencies, such as the Arab Center for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD), FAO, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and IFAD, which, among others, promoted new and improved agricultural production technologies and practices, and controlled transboundary animal diseases (TADs) and transboundary crop diseases and pests in a region which is host to many virulent diseases and pests (see Sections 3.8, 3.9 and 3.10). Smallholder farmers from the Syrian borders of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon – countries with under-funded and weak agricultural research and extension services – also used to benefit from these subsidized Syrian services.

3.5 Agricultural labour in affected areas of neighbouring countries

In many areas affected by the Syria crisis (in particular the northern governorates of Jordan and the Jordan Valley; the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon; and southern provinces of Turkey), the agriculture sector relies heavily on seasonal migratory labour, either from neighbouring countries (e.g. Egyptians, Syrians and Iraqis in Jordan and Syrians in Lebanon) or, in the case of Turkey, from other provinces with high unemployment rates. However, an increased number of arguably more skilled Syrian farm workers have now entered the labour market and are willing to work at lower wages. *For example, there has been a reported decrease in agricultural wages for Lebanese workers from LBP 35 000 to 25 000 per day and of Syrian seasonal workers from LBP 3 000 to 2 000 per hour for men and LBP 2 000 to 1 500 per hour for women in Lebanon. Agro-industries in the Bekaa Valley have reported that daily wages for labourers have dropped by up to 60 percent. Similar figures have been identified by the ILO in Jordan, but not officially reported.*

Female agricultural labour is systematically underreported, as it is viewed as an extension of household responsibilities and thus not recorded in national statistics. However, rural women play an important role in subsistence farming and rainfed agriculture, especially livestock breeding (caring for herds of up to 40 and 50 heads of sheep and goats), where they are responsible for most tasks in animal care, feeding and watering. Rural women are also responsible for household and community milking and dairy production.

3.6 Food and nutrition security in affected areas of neighbouring countries

3.6.1 Food availability

The conflict in Syria is posing a significant challenge to the availability of food in neighbouring countries at the national, local and household levels. The crisis is affecting food availability in neighbouring countries through: (i) the negative effect on local food productive capacities, mostly because of the security situation in border areas and higher cost agricultural inputs and services; (ii) the increased demand for food as a result of the growing influx of refugees and returnees from Syria and increased fiscal burden to maintain food subsidies; and (iii) the considerable fall in imports of food products from Syria. Apart from Turkey, Syria's neighbouring countries import together over 50 percent of their food needs. The conflict in Syria has led to a significant drop in food production in Syria and is negatively affecting food production in the rest of the region, raising the need for food imports and thus increasing the exposure of these countries to shocks in world food supplies and prices.

3.6.2 Food access

The closure of borders and the decreased ability of producers to export their products to Syrian markets, as well as to other markets transiting through Syria (e.g. Turkey, GCC and Eastern Europe), have resulted in loss of income to farming communities and many of the people working along the food and agriculture commodity chains. Increased competition from refugee workers with local workers also resulted in reduced household incomes in host communities. Host communities in border areas of Jordan and Lebanon have been hit the most in terms of income losses because of deterioration in their farming and trading businesses and the loss of jobs. Host communities in Ramtha (in Jordan) and Akkar and Hermel (in Lebanon) are already among the poorest segments/pockets in these countries, and their main occupation is farming and other activities linked to border trading.

Inflation of prices as a result of increased demand for basic food and services have led to increased food costs. While the prices of some food products have decreased, particularly those items that could not be exported, the overall food prices have been higher than before the crisis. Between 2011 and 2012, food prices have increased by about 8 percent in Iraq, 5 percent in Jordan and 10 percent in Lebanon. In Jordan, the increase in food prices is particularly high for meat (14 percent), dairy products (19 percent), sugar (12 percent) and eggs (30 percent). Hosting refugees has also been a big burden for many families in neighbouring countries, particularly in districts bordering Syria, like Ramtha and Irbid in Jordan, and Akkar and Hermel in Lebanon. The refugee recipient areas are already categorized among the poorest in these countries. In some areas, host communities are now receiving refugees of more than seven people per household.

The good road network between Lebanon, Jordan and Syria, and the strong family links that exist across borders, has made inhabitants of the border towns in Jordan and Lebanon dependent on Syria as a major source of imported food products and other groceries. These food items used to be obtained at much lower prices compared with domestic food supply sources within their own countries. The disruption of this cross-border transportation of food products and commodities has put more pressure on the incomes of these families and has forced a change in their dietary consumption.

3.6.3 Food utilization

Regional instability, the closure of borders, disruption of trade and the influx of nearly 10 million IDPs, refugees and returnees have all posed significant challenges to food utilization in the subregion, namely:

- **Stress on the supplies of local nutritious food** – The supply of locally produced commodities has come under stress, especially for those that are produced at the level of self-sufficiency, such as chicken, sheep, goats, dairy products, eggs, olives and olive oil, in addition to a number of fruits and vegetables.
- **Upward pressure on food prices** – Food prices in the subregion stabilized after the 2008 crisis, though at higher rates. The fact that meat, dairy products and eggs have the highest rate among all food items poses a real challenge for the poorest segments of the society, who will not be able to afford these items, worsening their food consumption pattern and reducing nutritional diversity.
- **Increased pressure on food and safety nets** – Syrian refugees benefit from host government provisions of bread, electricity, gas and water subsidies, school feeding, etc.
- **Potential worsening of household food utilization** – No recent data is available on the number of food insecure and vulnerable populations. Nevertheless, this population stratum is highly fragile and can be severely impacted by any shock. Falling in the lowest income category, food-insecure households will have to make trade-offs between food and non-food expenditures. Food price increases and the removal of subsidies will shrink their real incomes and reduce their purchasing power, leaving them in a worse-off situation.

For example, the increased demand for poultry products in Jordan and a reduced supply has tripled the price of eggs. This may also be linked to the presence of the high number of Syrian refugees in the country. Smuggling of cheaper eggs to neighbouring countries from Syria has been a long known fact, particularly to Iraq and Lebanon, which has now dried up due to the destruction of major poultry farms in Homs and rural Damascus. Also, Lebanon used to import white cheese from Syria, but now the country has resorted to buying more expensive white cheese from Egypt and European Union suppliers.

3.7 Food safety

There is no available data to date, but refugee camps and impoverished host communities facing a lack of food supplies, cash and water supplies of questionable quality are highly exposed to food and water-borne disease outbreaks. This can be aggravated by the additional workload on public authorities already lacking either capacity or preparedness arrangement to face such situations. While the provision of healthcare to respond is a matter of public health, it must be underlined that this additional burden on displaced populations is mostly preventable. As FAO is striving to improve food and nutrition security, the safety of the food and water supply must be integrated in all its supportive activities.

In addition to TADs, the biosecurity of animal production needs to be strengthened to secure animal health, as well as reducing the exposure of populations to highly debilitating chronic diseases, such as brucellosis transmitted by unpasteurized milk. Water quality and/or sanitation is not only critical to prevent water-borne diseases starting with cholera (there is a history of documented past and current cholera outbreaks linked to refugee camps on the continent), but also the contamination of food at the community-based agro- and food-processing levels, as well as the community and household kitchen level. In general, the surge in food needs, inappropriate storage, in particular cold storage associated with disorganized logistics and energy supply, including cooking as a major and simple kill step, increases food safety risks, in particular microbiological contaminations.

Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian and Lebanese authorities need support to analyse and take appropriate action to prevent and mitigate food safety hazards affecting the food supply of displaced and resident populations, including the effectiveness of border control in light of increased imports of humanitarian food consignments. Risk communication and training at the community level is critical and should be associated with communication on nutrition at the community kitchen level. Further assistance is required in food safety surveillance and national preparedness to respond timely and effectively to food safety emergencies to prevent escalation, with appropriate coordination and contingency planning. Moreover, NGOs and other first responders need assistance on immediate food safety risk management measures to prevent and mitigate additional food safety and food-borne disease burdens on refugees and host communities.

3.8 Smallholder agricultural livelihoods

Although there is no official data available to date, initial findings of socio-economic baseline surveys undertaken by NGOs, such as REACH, have indicated that significant numbers of marginal and small-scale farmers and livestock breeders in affected areas of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon have suffered significant losses in farm income because of forced abandonment of farmlands or limited/untimely access to fields to plant, irrigate, weed and harvest their crops (as a result of hostilities along border areas), loss of informal cross-border trading opportunities (“smuggling”), reduced availability of irrigation water, increases in the price of agricultural inputs, reduced marketing opportunities for traditional export crops and a corresponding net decrease in farm-gate prices. *For example, in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon, smallholder farmers have reported two- to five-fold increases in the prices of vegetable seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, animal feed, animal medicines, machinery spare parts and diesel fuel. Cheaper imports of inputs from Syria have been substituted by imports from more expensive foreign sources.*

The increasing cost of production of dairy and small ruminants has become too high a burden for smallholder farmers and livestock herders, all brought about by dwindling supplies of expensive animal feed and higher market prices of both roughages and concentrates; higher cost of grazing rent on private pastures; shortages in veterinary services and the high cost of veterinary visits and drug supplies; and, with the absence of artificial insemination services for dairy animals and the inability of smallholders to afford the cost of raising breeding bulls, many milking cows remain dry. Many smallholder farmers and livestock herders are therefore selling their valuable breeding-quality animals in order to pay rents and purchase food and essential non-food items for their families. Farmers and livestock herders unable to afford animal feed and veterinary services have also been forced to sell their animals at 40 to 50 percent of normal market prices or graze them on already over-exploited rangelands of poor nutritional value far from their homes. Farmers without access to such coping mechanisms have been forced to seek alternative unskilled work in other sectors, most of which are found in urban areas with high unemployment rates and low wages – thereby increasing the risk of falling into an escalating “poverty trap” already identified in such “poverty pockets” of Ninawa Governorate in Iraq, Mafraq Governorate in Jordan and Akkar in Lebanon.

Overall, the disruptions in trade have had a negative impact on small producers and workers along the supply chains of most agricultural commodities. The communities living close to the borders with Syria have been most affected as a result of lost jobs and a decline in farm businesses. *For example, in Turkey, farmers from border areas have reported a more than 40 percent fall in farm-gate prices for grapes, olives and pistachio nuts because Syrian refugees are returning to their farms, harvesting their trees and returning to Turkey to sell their produce to processors/wholesalers at much lower prices and often at inferior qualities.*

3.9 Transboundary animal diseases

The first and the most important potential impact on the subregion’s agriculture sector is the increased uncontrolled movements of livestock across borders from Syria to Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (especially the Badia rangelands). Syrian refugees (and Lebanese returnees) have brought unvaccinated sheep, goats and cattle to all countries sharing borders with Syria, with minimum or zero quarantine, for grazing, sale on the open market and slaughter. This is a major concern because Syrian livestock have not been vaccinated against TADs and zoonoses for at least 18 to 24 months due to the collapse of Syria’s field veterinary services. This threatens the health of livestock, animal disease control programmes, grasslands and rangelands, and health of the people of those countries. It is estimated that 250 to 300 sheep, goats and cattle cross into Lebanon from Syria every day and 300 000 goats were legally imported from Syria to Jordan in 2012.

Only Turkey can claim to possess an animal health system that can effectively manage the threat of TADs spreading from neighbouring countries such as Syria. This is due to the fact that the country has received considerable financial and technical support from the European Union to control TADs and prevent them from spreading to Turkey’s western borders with Europe. However, Turkey has a long and highly porous border with Syria and outbreaks of lumpy skin disease (LSD), isolated cases of bovine tuberculosis, *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR) and rabies have been officially reported in captured and slaughtered Syrian animals.

The veterinary services of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon are not able to cope with the increased threat of TADs coming from Syria – lacking the resources and capacity to establish an effective surveillance and control system in border areas. The risk of TADs, such as brucellosis, foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), LSD, PPR, rabies and external and internal parasites and zoonotic cutaneous leishmaniasis and *rickettsia* that have already broken out in Syria and have spread across border areas into neighbouring countries as isolated cases, is therefore severely heightened.

3.10 Transboundary crop diseases and pests

There is no evidence to date, but there is a similar risk to TADs as there is with transboundary crop diseases and pests, such as wheat rust and tomato leaf miner, with the collapse of plant protection services in Syria, and weak, under-capacitated and absent (in times of border hostility) sanitary and phytosanitary controls at Iraqi, Jordanian and Lebanese border crossings. The risk is also higher for citrus and stone fruit, as they are vulnerable hosts of viruses and phytoplasma, which affect not only the production, but also may result in plant death. Vegetable seeds and seedlings also carry unidentified diseases. The limited capacity to inspect plant imports and to secure the production of healthy plant material locally at competitive prices will increase the risk of pest and disease transfer from Syria, and consequently have a negative impact on crop production in the medium and long term through the dissemination of diseases affecting crop yield and quality. The recent completion of the FAO-supported project, “Regional Integrated Pest Management Programme in the Near East”, also means that immediate international capacity development support is no longer available.

3.11 Environmental threats

Traditional livestock movements across the Near East region by Bedouin nomads and semi-nomadic/transhumant pastoralists are very common – particularly across the Badia rangelands of southern Syria, northwestern Iraq and northeastern Jordan. The Badia rangelands are fragile semi-desert steppes characterized by a sparse vegetation cover (of nutritious species palatable for sheep and goats). The continued insecurity in Syria has meant that the cross-border movement of Bedouin herders from winter grazing in Syria to summer grazing in Iraq and Jordan has been severely disrupted. The protracted crisis has resulted in the Bedouin herders abandoning their Syrian pastures and staying all-year round on the rangelands of northwestern Iraq and northeastern Jordan. The consequences of this is the serious risk of invading unpalatable species (weeds and scrub) in the Syrian pastures and overgrazing and land degradation (with the potential for desertification) of the Badia rangelands of Iraq and Jordan – similar to the damage caused by the movement of 1.8 million sheep, goats and camels to the Badia of northeastern Jordan during the 1990–1991 Gulf war. There is already evidence of overgrazing in northeastern Jordan as herders seek alternative animal feed sources, especially in winter months. Similar threats to the degradation of forests and rangelands have been witnessed in Akkar, Hermel and eastern Baalbeck districts of Lebanon.

The influx of refugees in large numbers has result in accelerated degradation of water resources for domestic and irrigation use. Irrigated farmers in Mafraq Governorate of Jordan, Bekaa Valley of Lebanon and Kurdistan Regional Governorate of Iraq have increased their planted area in order to cover the increasing local demand for food commodities (in refugee camps and host communities). Such increases in irrigated areas, as well as the increase in domestic use, have accentuated the depletion of underground water. *Farmers in Al Qaa, Lebanon, confirmed that the water table – which usually at the start of winter is situated at 150 m – has dropped by 10 to 20 m. However, in years with extended dry periods, like in 2013, the water table might get deeper, as long as snowmelt and rain have not refilled the underground aquifers. Beside the environmental impact of depleted water resources, economic impact is extenuated by the additional costs for energy to pump water from deeper aquifers and related transportation (with increases of more than 20 percent in Hermel, Lebanon).*

The Governments of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon are further concerned that the inadequate waste disposal systems found at refugee camps (such as Zaatari in Jordan) and informal settlements will also lead to pollution of local domestic and irrigation water supplies, and blockage of drainage systems with the increased risk of flooding (as witnessed at Nahr el Joz in North Lebanon Governorate).

4. FAO'S STRATEGY FOR RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS IN THE SUBREGION

4.1 FAO's Strategic Objective 5 ("Resilience")

In order to achieve the vision of FAO and the global goals of its Members, the Organization has defined five Strategic Objectives (SOs), viz: (SO1) eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition; (SO2) increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner; (SO3) improve the livelihoods of rural populations and, in particular for women and youth, through enhanced employment opportunities and conditions, increased access to productive resources and rural services; (SO4) enable more inclusive and efficient food and agricultural systems at local, national and international levels; and (SO5) increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises (Annex 1). The focus of this FAO Subregional Action Plan is therefore in areas of direct relevance to FAO's SO5, while also linking to the other four Strategic Objectives in addressing longer-term stresses. Details about FAO's "Resilience Objective" (SO5) can be found in the recently published FAO document **"Resilient Livelihoods – Disaster Risk Reduction for Food and Nutrition Security (2013 edition)"**.

For FAO, "resilience to shocks" is the ability to prevent and mitigate disasters and crises, as well as to anticipate, absorb, accommodate or recover and adapt from them in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner. This includes protecting, restoring and improving livelihood systems in the face of threats that impact agriculture, food and nutrition (and related public health) in situations such as the protracted Syria crisis.

Resilience reflects strengths and capacities of a system and its parts to manage risks and crises, while vulnerability is the degree of susceptibility and exposure to shocks. The resilience of communities is particularly important when institutions are challenged, such as in protracted crises, violent conflicts and post-crisis transitions. Resilient livelihood systems withstand threats or adapt to new pathways in times of crisis. This resilience is the first – and sometimes only – line of defence for vulnerable smallholders when threats become crises. Those who have limited capacity to buffer crisis impacts risk life-long, intergenerational consequences when the marginally food secure slip into malnutrition and the impoverished fall into destitution.

Capacities to absorb and manage shocks have been depleted by the frequency and magnitude of crises and their cumulative effects. Recurrent, multifaceted crises have eroded livelihoods and triggered unsustainable natural resource use, with deleterious consequences for millions of poor and marginalized rural people. This is compounded by inadequate institutional environments that otherwise should protect, preserve and promote the resilience of agricultural livelihoods.

Public and private systems that provide support and protect livelihoods and rights are often inadequate, especially in low-income, disaster-prone and protracted crisis countries such as Syria and its neighbours. The poor in rural and urban areas are disproportionately affected, with poverty serving as both a driver and a consequence of inadequate livelihoods. Malnutrition is both an impact of crises and of the related coping strategies that households are compelled to adopt, as well as a driving factor threatening the resilience of livelihoods. Moreover, crises tend to perpetuate and reinforce existing social (including gender) and economic inequalities, hampering processes of sustainable and equitable recovery and development.

The inability of families, communities and institutions to anticipate, absorb, accommodate or recover and adapt from crises and disasters in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner is at the crux of FAO's strategic objective. This weakness in resilience triggers a downward spiral – household livelihoods and national development gains that have taken years to build are compromised or, at times, shattered.

FAO's resilience agenda encompasses strategic partnerships and direct action in four key, mutually reinforcing areas for agriculture, food and nutrition (including crops, livestock, fish, forests and natural resources) at the local, national, regional and global levels:

- **Govern risks and crises:** Countries and regions adopt and implement legal, policy and institutional systems and regulatory frameworks for risk reduction and crisis management (e.g. agricultural policies which incorporate disaster risk management [DRM] in mainstream development and national DRM strategies that promote community-based disaster risk reduction [DRR] actions)⁹.
- **Watch to safeguard:** Countries and regions provide regular information and early warning against potential, known and emerging threats (e.g. FAO-supported Integrated Food Security Phase Classification [IPC] system, Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases [EMPRES] and Global Information and Early Warning System [GIEWS]).
- **Apply risk and vulnerability reduction measures:** Countries reduce risks and vulnerability at the household and community levels (e.g. natural resource management, livelihood diversification and risk-proof infrastructure and plantation, such as rainwater harvesting, agroforestry, soil conservation, riverbank protection, flood control and landslide stabilization).
- **Prepare and respond:** Countries and regions affected by disasters and crises prepare for, and manage, effective responses (e.g. seed reserves, storage facilities, livestock shelters, issuing of mitigation and preparedness best practice guidelines for cyclones, droughts, fires, floods, tsunamis, etc.).

4.2 FAO's strategy for strengthening resilience to the Syria crisis

Under this complex and multidimensional scenario, with expected long-lasting impacts on both Syria and neighbouring countries, FAO places "resilience" at the heart of its interventions, addressing both the short-term humanitarian needs and the longer-term underlying causes of vulnerability. With the final aim to protect, restore and strengthen livelihoods and the agro-ecosystems on which livelihoods depend, short-, medium- and longer-term actions are tailor-made to address the specific needs of the main groups affected by the crisis (Syrian IDPs and affected populations, refugees, returnees, host communities, and national and local authorities). This entails interrelated and mutually supporting actions at all levels, i.e. households, communities, institutions and agro-ecosystems at the national and regional levels.

In line with national governments' priorities and within existing regional frameworks for addressing the Syria crisis, and in partnerships with national institutions, UN agencies, non-state actors and private sector organizations, FAO has prepared this "**Subregional Strategy and Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis**". The overall goal of the Subregional Strategy is to "*strengthen the resilience of livelihood systems (including individuals, households, communities and agro-ecosystems) to absorb, recover and adapt in a sustainable way from the impacts of the Syria crisis, reduce risks, and anticipate and mitigate future shocks affecting the food and nutrition security and the renewable resource base*". In this context, the Strategy identifies key emergency response, agricultural restoration, livelihood recovery, risk-sensitive agricultural development and related policy and capacity development interventions aimed at humanitarian relief for IDPs, refugees and returnees, recovery and stabilization of national agriculture sectors, and strengthening the resilience of Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities to help them withstand the impact of the Syria crisis. The Strategy, which reflects FAO's corporate and regional frameworks (with the Syria crisis as its source and core), is articulated around four main mutually reinforcing pillars, as follows:

⁹ In many countries, crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry subsectors and natural resources are often not part of the DRR/DRM debate – unlike infrastructure.

- i. **Support vulnerable and affected people coping with the impact of the crisis and protect their livelihood asset** base for future self-reliance, through short-term impact nutrition-sensitive agriculture and livestock interventions, and related control and surveillance of immediate risks for TADs and transboundary crop diseases and pests – *“Prepare and respond”*.
- ii. **Promote prevention and impact mitigation measures** through the application of technologies, good practices (including climate-smart agriculture) and approaches for farming intensification and diversification, cross-border control and prevention of animal and crop diseases and pests, forestry, range and water management, and value chain development through public-private partnerships – *“Apply risk and vulnerability reduction measures”*.
- iii. **Support information, monitoring and analysis networks** on food and nutrition security (including safety), transboundary animal and crop threats and natural resources (land, water and forests) to inform decision-making and early action – *“Watch to safeguard”*.
- iv. **Institutional strengthening** for building regional, national and local capacities, as well as related policy frameworks to scale up and sustain the risk management and crisis recovery efforts, e.g. developing capacities of individuals and institutions at all administrative levels in affected countries to manage the above-mentioned three areas of work linked to multiple threats and protracted crisis – *“Govern risk and crisis”*.

FAO’s “Resilience Objective” straddles across and encompasses both emergency and development interventions aiming to ensure a continuum of short-term and longer-term action in support of the most vulnerable affected groups. So far, FAO emergency interventions aimed at addressing the humanitarian, short-term needs of the affected populations, which have been ongoing since 2012. Actions have been mainly focused on protecting the livelihoods of affected and vulnerable populations to restore small-scale farming and herding activities and avoid full depletion of assets, as the first frontline for enhancing resilience in Syria. These activities include the rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure through “cash-for-work”, provision of quality cereal seeds and fertilizers, recovery of small-scale livestock production, safeguarding livestock health and survival through the distribution of emergency feed and veterinary supplies, as well as increasing small-scale food production, nutrition knowledge and food utilization through provision of backyard gardening and poultry kits. In Lebanon, FAO is supporting emergency vaccination and feeding of Bedouin sheep and goat herds’ grazing, and dairy cattle located in areas along the Syrian border. In addition, seven FAO regional agricultural programmes have been recently completed or are ongoing, which also contribute to strengthening the resilience of communities and institutions to threats and crises (Annex 1). Thus, the Subregional Action Plan aims to expand and build up from the ongoing crisis emergency response to coherent integrated recovery and sustainable risk sensitive development.

In order to sustain adequate standards of living, combat poverty and substantially increase and maintain food and nutrition security in the geographical areas affected by the Syria crisis, it is important to strengthen and enhance the local economies that currently provide agricultural livelihoods for the vast majority of the local rural populations. As indicated earlier, it is estimated that the livelihoods of the great majority of rural populations in the main affected areas depend directly or indirectly on agriculture¹⁰ and related services and industries. The populations of these rural communities mostly affected by the direct and indirect impact of the Syria crisis are however already among the poorest communities of Syria and its neighbouring countries, and most of them live below official poverty lines.

The most affected areas, while applying low or underexploited input/output production systems, have substantial potential for agriculture development (i.e. crops, livestock and forestry). Experience from other countries around the world has shown that economic growth from agriculture has been twice as effective at reducing poverty, and thereby contributing to social stability, compared to growth originating from other sectors. Sustainable increases in agricultural production will also increase demand for related sectors, such as rural services, agroprocessing, agrobusiness and transport and

¹⁰ “Agriculture” includes crops, livestock, fisheries, forestry and other renewable natural resources.

communication, and is thereby a catalyst for income generation and employment creation in a series of related domains.

Therefore, resource mobilization for assistance should be geared towards enabling crisis-affected smallholder crop and livestock farmers, not only to cover their minimum needs to sustain food production, but also to facilitate the desperately needed additional income and employment generating capacity of the agriculture sector, in particular for host communities. This is necessary in order for these communities to be able to cope with the pressure, feed themselves and strengthen their potential to assist refugees and returnees. Equally, creating income-generating opportunities for refugees and returnees will help them meet their basic needs of food and other necessities, and will minimize pressure on local host communities.

In this context, it becomes pivotal to apply efficient measures to sustainably reduce the steadily increasing cost of crop and livestock production in affected areas. Many of the affected vulnerable rural households will remain burdened by asset/harvest/income losses over the medium-term, while also suffering from the loss of other sources of income due to the state of disrepair and generic economic downturns. For these most vulnerable farming households, assistance should therefore target the lack of working capital which poses the greatest threat to safeguarding remaining production assets and to the recovery of the food and nutrition security and agricultural livelihoods in the affected communities. Farmers, input suppliers and buyers/traders are unable to appropriately pre-finance agricultural production due to crisis-related losses and increasing poverty. Therefore, some of the below recommended interventions are designed to address the critical situation of accumulated debt and unavailability of needed working capital among the most vulnerable farming communities in affected areas of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey through appropriate supply of indispensable production and post-harvest inputs, working capital, market intelligence, capacity development, etc. crucial to sustain food production in host communities and kick-start the revitalization of agricultural subsectors.

Direct support to the resource-poor and crisis-affected communities should not simply be punctual in response to a crisis but should – where feasible – comprise longer-term actions oriented towards socio-economic and risk-sensitive development of the agriculture sector (thus avoiding creating and accumulating additional risks). Equally important and critical in such a complex and protracted crisis situation is creating resilience by reducing risks in preserving and protecting crucial assets and options for food and nutrition security (see Section 4.2). When rural households and communities and networks for agricultural goods and services are resilient, people realize that positive livelihood outcomes (i.e. sufficient income, food and nutrition security, food safety, good health, etc.), the sustained preservation and protection of agro-ecosystems for current and future generations and enhanced social cohesion and peaceful co-existence are achievable. In addition, this is the only viable financial solution because short-term crisis emergency response is too expensive and cannot be sustained by the international and regional community in the longer term.

4.3 FAO's Subregional Action Plan for Strengthening Resilience to the Syria Crisis

4.3.1 Aims of the Subregional Action Plan

In order to operationalize its Subregional Strategy – while supporting the strategic objectives of various regional and national comprehensive strategies, resilience plans and roadmaps – FAO has prepared this “**Subregional Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis**”. The Action Plan encompasses key emergency response, agricultural restoration, livelihood recovery, risk-sensitive agricultural development, and policy and capacity development interventions aimed at the humanitarian relief for IDPs, refugees and returnees, stabilization and recovery of the national agriculture sectors and strengthening resilience of Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities to help them withstand the impact of the Syria crisis. The Subregional Action Plan would also aim at:

- Optimizing the utilization of natural resource endowments, i.e. sustainable natural resources management (land, water, forests and range) and human capital (abundance of labour and farming skills and knowledge) for increased productivity in the crops, livestock and forestry subsectors, and related income generation and employment creation on a cost-effective and sustainable basis.
- Overcoming the status of pre-existing stagnating production levels – the farming communities would be given the means to increase production volumes in order to benefit from existing and new markets inside and outside of their origins (taking advantage of developing value chain approaches).
- Ensuring that short-term emergency relief initiatives and medium-term recovery/stabilization efforts are rationally combined in order to form a sound basis for the long-term risk-sensitive development of the agriculture sector; in this respect, simultaneous institutional building and human resources development will be fundamental for creating the needed implementation capacity and lasting sustainability of public sector services provision for crisis prevention, preparedness and mitigation.

As mentioned earlier, one of the main constraints encountered during preparation of the Subregional Action Plan was related to the lack of data on food security, agricultural livelihoods, vulnerability analysis, as well on the impact of the crisis on the already fragile natural resources, which poses a major challenge for informed decision-making. Now, three years into the Syria crisis, the quality and quantity of credible and timely information on the food security, agricultural livelihood and natural resource situation remain extremely variable in terms of coverage and frequency. While some useful studies have been conducted, these have generally focused on specific areas and/or population groups in Syria and its neighbouring countries, and quality varies widely. This Action Plan tries to address this challenge by stressing the need for development of food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources information networks – the work in this field will represent one of the key focus areas for FAO’s engagement in the short, medium and long term.

4.3.2 Connection between FAO’s Subregional Action Plan and FAO’s Resilience Objective

Table 4 shows how the short-, medium- and long-term interventions proposed under this **FAO Subregional Action Plan** falls under the four “pillars” of FAO’s “Resilience Objective” (SO5; Section 4.1). Chapter 5 and Annexes 3 and 4 provide details of programmes and subprogrammes/projects proposed under the Plan of Action.

FAO would ensure that all agricultural investments in the crop, livestock and forestry subsectors of the above-mentioned interventions/subprogrammes are protected through DRR elements, and helping the most vulnerable rural people of the Near East region (especially those affected by the Syria crisis) to become food secure and less poor.

While the present FAO Subregional Action Plan focuses specifically on addressing the impact of the Syria crisis, it also looks at the capacity of rural society to face other risks and threats that could further affect the livelihoods of the most vulnerable and food and nutrition security as a whole, thus impacting on the development gains. Hazards in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey are mainly drought and epidemic related and, in particular at this moment, the risk of transboundary animal and crop diseases and pests. Reduction and control of the aforementioned risks are an integral of the current Action Plan – the threat of TADs is addressed under Programme numbers S.4, J.1, L.1, I.1 and R.1; the risk of crop diseases and pests under Programme numbers J.5 and L.4; and drought mitigation (e.g. water harvesting, on-farm water management and conservation agriculture) are at the core of interventions supporting climate-smart agriculture and natural resource management of host communities under Programme numbers S.3, J.4, J.6 and L.5.

Table 4. Connection between Action Plan Interventions and FAO’s Resilience Pillars

FAO’s Resilience Pillar	Action Plan Intervention (subprogrammes)
1. Govern risks and crises (<i>enable the environment</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural policy and strategy development, including review of DRM and risk and crisis coordination (including food and nutrition security policy and strategy with multi-hazard risks approaches) • Natural resource management policy and strategy development
2. Watch to safeguard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and regional surveillance and reporting of TADs and plant diseases and pests • Livelihood and natural resource assessment of conflict-affected areas and host communities • Regional agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network
3. Apply risk and vulnerability reduction measures (<i>protect and build livelihoods</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved livestock production through better animal husbandry • Recovery and longer-term income generation and diversification, employment creation and food nutrition through integrated homestead farming, household food processing, community-based agroprocessing and value chain development • Technology transfer of new and improved climate-smart technologies and practices through farmer field schools (FFSs) • Community-based water harvesting and forestry and range management
4. Prepare and respond (<i>in conflict-affected areas, refugee camps and host communities</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency responses to support life-saving livelihoods and food and nutrition security of poor smallholder farmers and animal herders • Recovery of smallholder agricultural production and marketing through subsidies and cash transfers (<i>Turkey only</i>) • Emergency control of TADs in Syrian border areas • National and regional control of TADs • Emergency support to income generation and food nutrition through integrated homestead farming and food processing • Emergency support to rural household energy sources in hosting communities • Food nutrition and food safety for IDPs, refugees, returnees, etc.

Within the framework of the policy actions foreseen under stakeholder capacity building interventions, the overall institutional set-up for DRM/resilience (at the country level and for the agriculture sector) would be supported under the Subregional Action Plan. Coordination mechanisms for DRM/resilience would be reviewed and mainstreamed into the national agricultural policies supported by FAO and *vice versa*, with proper consideration (of international best practice) for agriculture and food and nutrition security incorporated into national DRM plans.

4.3.3 Sequencing of proposed interventions

As follow-up to FAO’s “Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security Impact Assessment and Response Plan for the Syria crisis in the Neighbouring Countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (March 2013)” and as contributions to FAO’s “**Subregional Strategy and Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis**”, the OCHA-led “Comprehensive Regional Strategy”; the UNDP-led “National Resilience Plan” for Jordan; and the World Bank-led “Lebanon Roadmap for Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict”, FAO has prepared this Subregional Action Plan for strengthening resilient livelihoods for agriculture and food and nutrition security in areas of Syria affected by the protracted conflict, IDP settlements and refugee camps, and in communities hosting refugees and returnees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, over five years (2014–2018) and across three overlapping/interlocking tracks/timeframes, as follows:

(i) Short-term rapid delivery and immediate impact food and agriculture emergency relief and stakeholder agricultural policy development (0 to 12 months)

This track includes food and nutrition security and agriculture-based livelihoods subprogrammes and projects, which would have an immediate impact on families and communities directly affected by the Syria crisis. This track would seek to support “quick win” interventions that mitigate some of the critical impacts of the crisis¹¹ and existing programmes and projects that can be modified¹² to respond to strategic objectives of regional and national comprehensive strategies, resilience plans and roadmaps and scaled up and/or implemented speedily and for which funding resources can be made available.

This track also includes capacity development of the Ministries of Agriculture and stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resource information gathering, analysis and knowledge sharing, DRM approaches and policy and strategy development that would enable effective preparation and implementation of programmes and projects under the medium- and partly long-term tracks, which would complement and extend some resilience-orientated interventions in humanitarian and food and agriculture emergency relief responses (e.g. irrigation infrastructure rehabilitation and integrated homestead farming), and would be closely coordinated to ensure effective targeting of gaps and needs and prevent relapse.

(ii) Medium-term delivery and impact for the recovery of agricultural livelihoods and agro-ecosystems (1 to 3 years)

This track would include medium-sized subprogrammes and projects that need longer preparation and implementation time, as well as short-term track interventions that are further scaled up in areas affected by the Syria crisis¹³. These should be simple and lean interventions adapted to the specific circumstances of national governments and affected areas – according to agreed parameters and mechanisms for pooling grants from government budgets and interested development partners to finance well-targeted and sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition, income generation/employment and natural resources interventions.

(iii) Long-term delivery and impact for risk-sensitive development of the agriculture and rural sectors (2 to 5 years)

This track includes subprogrammes and projects aimed at mitigating the impact of the Syria conflict at the governorate/provincial and national levels – such as extensive use and depletion of physical assets – strengthening livelihood resilience and institutional capacities that are nested within national governments’ development strategies¹⁴. These interventions would have a sustained development impact and the potential to carry out agriculture sector policy reforms prepared under the “short-term track”, e.g. agricultural diversification and intensification through the adoption of climate-smart agricultural technologies and practices, value chain development of key agricultural commodities and community-based forestry and range management in degraded areas.

¹¹ For example, those short-term food and agriculture and employment creation interventions presented for funding under SHARP and RRP6 and included under the OCHA-led “Comprehensive Regional Strategy”, UNDP-led “National Resilience Plan for Jordan” and Track 1 of the World Bank-led “Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Crisis” (Annex 2).

¹² For example, the United Nations Development Group/Iraq Trust Fund-funded; FAO-implemented “Develop the Performance of Small Ruminants (Sheep and Goats) and Improve the Level of Income for Small Breeders” (2013–2015); the Multi-donor Lebanon Recovery Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Recovery and Rehabilitation of the Dairy Sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel-Akkar Uplands Project” (2009–2014); and the Government of Turkey-funded and Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock-implemented “Rural Development Support Programme” (Annex 1).

¹³ For example, those medium-term food and agriculture interventions presented for inclusion under the OCHA-led “Comprehensive Regional Strategy” and UNDP-led “National Resilience Plan” for Jordan (Annex 2).

¹⁴ For example, those long-term host community value chain development interventions listed under Track 3 of the World Bank-led “Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Crisis” (Annex 2).

These interventions could be funded by international financing institutions (IFIs) and possibly blended with grant financing from multilateral and bilateral donors. The finalization of these programmes and projects will hinge on individual country institutional capacity and political will to enter into sector policy reform programmes, while also managing and reducing multihazard risks. This track, although large and ambitious in terms of financial contributions, could be the most promising in terms of overcoming the current crisis and building national multidimensional livelihood resilience and agricultural development programmes.

Further details of programmes and short-, medium- and long-term subprogrammes/projects proposed under FAO's Subregional Action Plan are provided in Chapter 5 and Annexes 3 and 4.

The scale and scope of interventions proposed under this FAO Subregional Action Plan have been based, *inter alia*, on four strategic considerations. Firstly, there is a need for a realistic dimension of achievable programme and subprogramme/project objectives (especially regarding the number of beneficiaries), given the uncertainty of the scope and duration of the Syria crisis and the limited timelines of 12 months, three years and five years. The second consideration relates to the currently limited and overstretched government and local implementation capacity for the execution of emergency, recovery and rehabilitation projects, especially in more remote areas along the Syrian border. Thirdly, proposing too many and costly projects represents a high risk of under-disbursement of government and donor funds and failed or suboptimal achievement of project objectives (possibly due to the limited implementation capacities and restricted timeframes), which could damage the reputation and credibility of the implementing entities, technical cooperation partners and government ministries alike, and reduce the potential for successive funding support. Finally, existing localized crop calendar needs have to be respected within any input-related project, and therefore represent, *per se*, a limitation in terms of speediness and number of initiatives to be implemented within a given period of time.

4.3.4 Participants and other stakeholders

The target areas of the FAO Subregional Action Plan would include:

- conflict-affected areas and communities hosting IDPs in Syria (e.g. Deir Ezzor, Hama, Hassakeh, Homs, Idlib and Rural Damascus Provinces); and
- Syrian refugees and Lebanese; Palestinian, Kurdish and other returnees; and the most-affected communities hosting those refugees and returnees in peri-urban areas of Egypt and rural parts of Dohuk, Erbil, Ninawa and Sulaymaniyah Governorates in northern Iraq; Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Jarash, Karak, Mafraq and Zarqa Governorates in northern Jordan; Akkar, Baalbeck-Hermel, Bekaa and North Lebanon Governorates in northern and eastern Lebanon; and Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis and Saniurfa Provinces in Turkey.

The beneficiaries of FAO's Subregional Action Plan would include:

- impoverished Syrian IDPs and refugees and Lebanese, Palestinian, Kurdish and other returnees with no significant alternative income-earning opportunities seeking temporary agriculture-related employment in peri-urban and rural settings;
- vulnerable rural communities comprising food-insecure and/or poor smallholder farming families hosting refugees and returnees;
- resource-poor Bedouin herders whose pastures in the Badia rangelands are steadily degrading with reduced access to winter pastures in Syria; and
- government, non-government and private sector agricultural support service providers responsible for addressing the impact of the Syria crisis in rural areas and for managing multihazard risks (through capacity development interventions).

Apart from national government Ministries of Agriculture and appropriate line departments (and other related ministries and line departments) and FAO, implementing partners of the Subregional Action Plan would include:

- community-based organizations (CBOs) (e.g. men and women farmers' groups, farmers' associations and cooperatives);
- local, national and specialized international NGOs (e.g. the Red Crescent Movement, ACTED and Mercy Corps);
- food and nutrition, food safety and natural resource management-oriented UN agencies, e.g. UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and the World Health Organization (WHO); and
- private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) and private companies (i.e. buyers and traders of farm produce, food manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers and exporters of agricultural commodities, and consultancy and engineering firms specializing in information technology, market intelligence, agricultural and rural development, etc.).

5. PROGRAMMES FOR RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS UNDER THE SUBREGIONAL ACTION PLAN

5.1 Food security and agricultural livelihoods options

Based on the situation analysis and needs assessment of the previous sections, and taking into account the most likely scenario that the protracted Syria crisis will continue for some time, FAO and the Ministries of Agriculture (and related ministries) of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey have jointly prepared an action plan that provides a food and agriculture approach for humanitarian, recovery and development actions with the overall objective of ensuring that IDPs, refugees and returnees are assisted, host communities in rural areas and their national agricultural support services are supported and reinforced, and the needs of all affected rural and peri-urban populations in the subregion are addressed. In this context, FAO's Subregional Action Plan is in line with:

- national policies and programmes for national development and poverty alleviation, food security and agriculture, natural resources (in particular land, water and forests) and climate change;
- FAO's corporate pillars for resilience (SO5; Section 4.1) and four pillars of FAO's Subregional Strategy for Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis, i.e. (i) support vulnerable households coping with the impact of the crisis and protect their livelihood assets; (ii) promote prevention and impact mitigation measures; (iii) support information, monitoring and analysis networks; and (iv) institutional strengthening (Section 4.2);
- "Food and agriculture sector response plans" of the December 2013 SHARP (Annex 2);
- "Essential needs and services for refugees (including food security)" and "addressing needs of host communities (including safety nets, livelihoods and employment)" strategic response priorities of the December 2013 RRP6 (Annex 2);
- three of the four "purposes of interventions" under the proposed OCHA-led "Comprehensive Regional Strategy (December 2013)", i.e. (i) meeting humanitarian needs in Syria and in neighbouring countries; (ii) supporting stability in refugee hosting countries; and (iii) strengthening resilience in refugee-hosting countries; addressing coping mechanisms, recovery and return; and sustainability (Annex 2);
- two of the three strategic objectives of the proposed UNDP-led (regional) "Resilience-based Development Response (November 2013)", i.e. recovery of vulnerable households and macro-economic, social and political stability (Annex 2);
- the intervention response for "livelihoods and employment (including food security)" of the UNDP-led Host Community Support Platform's "National Resilience Plan" for Jordan (January 2014); and
- the "Lebanon Host Community Support Programme and Community Social Development Project" of Track One (*rapid delivery and immediate impact*) and Three (*longer-term delivery and impact*) Interventions under the World Bank-led "Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict (November 2013)".

In this context, FAO's Subregional Action Plan encompasses key short-term emergency response and policy development, medium-term agricultural restoration and livelihood recovery and long-term agricultural risk-sensitive development interventions aimed at humanitarian relief for IDPs, refugees and returnees; stabilization and recovery of the national agriculture sectors; and strengthening resilience of Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities to help them withstand the impact of the Syria crisis. FAO and the national Ministries of Agriculture, working together with other relevant actors, aim to leverage the Organization's comparative advantage in food and nutrition security and agriculture-based livelihood programming, both globally and in the Near East region, by focusing on seven generic priority interventions (including short-, medium- and longer-term interventions) for building resilient livelihoods for agriculture and food and nutrition security in areas affected by the Syria crisis, as follows:

1. **Strengthening the regional and national capacities for the control of TADs and improved animal health services** – through disease surveillance, diagnostic analyses, issuing disease early warning, vaccination campaigns, strengthening veterinary quarantine systems and capacity through training in preparedness, good emergency management practices, and community-based animal health services to protect the asset base and health of vulnerable socio-economic groups of Syrian border areas and neighbouring countries as a whole and reduce impacts on the livestock subsector and its contribution to food security and income generation.
2. **Strengthening the regional and national capacities for the control of transboundary plant diseases and pests and improved phytosanitary services** – through the reinforcement of risk-based control of food imports; strengthening the capacity of border food inspectorates; improving phytosanitary post-entry regulation measures and treatments (including the upgrading of laboratory facilities); and training of farmers' associations, cooperatives and food processors in good agricultural practices (GAP), good manufacturing practices (GMP) and good hygienic practices (GHP).
3. **Capacity development of Ministries of Agriculture, Departments of Statistics and other stakeholders of agriculture sectors in food security and natural resource information systems, DRM and policy development** – to inform decision-making through enhanced understanding of the impact of the Syria crisis on food security and natural resource depletion in Syria and its neighbouring countries, taking into account also the different impacts on men and women, and to strengthen the ability of governments, NGOs and the private sector to cope with food and agricultural livelihood aspects of the Syria crisis, and implement and monitor the aforementioned response options.
4. **Improved rural and peri-urban income generation and employment through smallholder crop and livestock production and integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and produce marketing (i.e. value chain development) in communities hosting Syrian refugees** – homestead-based and on-farm small animal husbandry, small-scale cereal and horticultural production, wastewater micro-irrigation, food processing, etc. and community-based agroprocessing, packaging, storage, marketing, rural transportation, etc. to increase the resilience of men and women farmers, households and communities to the impact of the Syria crisis on household food access and utilization and income generation by means of community-based and gender-sensitive adaptive research and participatory extension approaches (e.g. FFS, farmer business school (FBS) and junior farmer field and life school), public-private partnerships and value chain development approaches.
5. **Crop and livestock diversification and intensification and promotion of climate-smart agriculture technologies and practices in affected areas of Syria and communities hosting IDPs, Syrian refugees and Lebanese and Iraqi returnees through community-based adaptive research and participatory extension approaches** – through improved land management/conservation agriculture; on-farm water management; integrated plant soil nutrient management; integrated pest and disease management; and integrated homestead farming, animal husbandry, water- and labour-saving technologies, etc. to increase the resilience of individuals, households and communities to the impact of the Syria crisis on household food availability and income generation by means of community-based and gender-sensitive adaptive research and participatory extension approaches (e.g. FFS); and including the provision of seeds and fertilizers, animal feed and medicines, and poultry and vegetable packages ("cash-for-work") to rehabilitate damaged irrigation infrastructure and capacity development of veterinary services and farmers' associations.
6. **Strengthening national capacities for community-based natural resource management** – policy development and technical support to Ministries of Agriculture and Environment in the implementation of natural resource management-based projects in Syrian border areas and neighbouring countries as a whole, including community-based water harvesting and water management, range and forestry management and pasture development.

7. **Improved food nutrition and food safety for refugees, returnees and vulnerable host communities** – through enhanced food and nutritional knowledge of the impoverished refugee and returnee households by empowering women to change and improve their and their families' dietary habits and food safety, including community kitchens and training.

With no end to the protracted Syria crisis in sight, the FAO Subregional Action Plan would be reviewed and up-dated on a regular basis and at critical times, e.g. following results of the FAO agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of Jordanian and Lebanese host communities to be conducted by April/May 2014.

5.2 National and regional programmes and subprogrammes

The seven above-mentioned priority interventions comprise two regional and 24 national programmes, mutually reinforcing 51 short-, medium- and long-term subprogrammes in support of the relief, recovery and development of the Syrian, Jordanian, Lebanese, Iraqi, Egyptian and Turkish agriculture sectors and their rural and peri-urban livelihoods (including food and nutrition security, income generation and natural resource management initiatives). The respective programmes and subprogrammes are listed below (Sections 5.2.1 to 5.2.7) and detailed in Annex 3.

It should be noted that the elaborated subprogramme/project profiles (Annex 3) are not definitive in nature, i.e. once funding interest has been confirmed, working sessions between the donors/IFIs, relevant government line ministries and FAO would review and fine-tune the proposals in order to reach a common agreement prior to signature, including scale of financial assistance and support duration, geographical and beneficiaries targeting and implementing partners. Therefore, there is still sufficient flexibility for justified modifications even at a later stage.

5.2.1 Syria

Programme:		USD
	Short term (humanitarian relief and policy development)	
	Medium term (agricultural livelihoods recovery)	
	Long term (agricultural and rural development)	
S.1 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security information systems		
	S.1.1 Leadership and coordination of the food and agriculture sector (12 months)	676 000
	S.1.2 Support to the surveillance and monitoring of national food and nutrition security (30 months)	2 000 000
S.2 Support to agriculture-based livelihoods through the rehabilitation of damaged small-scale irrigation schemes		20 400 000
	S.2.1 Emergency support of agriculture-based livelihoods through the implementation of “cash-for-work” for the rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals (12 months)	5 400 000
	S.2.2 Recovery of agricultural livelihoods through the rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation schemes and improved water management (36 months)	15 000 000
S.3 Enhanced resilience of smallholder farmers through improved crop production		40 000 000
	S.3.1 Emergency support to crop production for impoverished farming communities affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)	20 000 000
	S.3.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for vulnerable rural farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through the rehabilitation of sustainable input supply systems and promotion of climate-smart production technologies and practices (36 months)	20 000 000
S.4 Enhanced resilience of small-scale livestock herders through improved livestock production		30 000 000
	S.4.1 Emergency assistance to support small-scale livestock herders affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)	10 000 000
	S.4.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for small-scale livestock herders affected by the Syria crisis through improved animal health and production systems (36 months)	20 000 000
S.5 Enhanced resilience of rural and peri-urban households through integrated homestead gardening		7 500 000
	S.5.1 Emergency response to restore/sustain livelihoods of vulnerable landless and marginal farmers affected by the crisis in the Syria through improved integrated horticultural and poultry production and enhanced food nutrition (12 months)	7 500 000
	S.5.2 Smallholder value chain development in provinces most severely affected by the Syria crisis*	–
Total		100 576 000

* Given the present situation in Syria, it is difficult to assess the final impact of the crisis on value chains of agricultural commodities, and formulate and budget an appropriate long-term development subprogramme.

5.2.2 Jordan

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
J.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services		9 553 600
J.1.1 Emergency control of TADs (<i>18 months</i>)		2 602 600
J.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses (<i>36 months</i>)		6 951 000
J.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security and natural resource information systems and policy development in Jordan		752 500
J.2.1 Agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of host communities (<i>15 months</i>)		752 500
J.2.2 Technical support to agricultural policy development in Jordan (<i>24 months</i>)		
J.3 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees		22 110 400
J.3.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafraq Governorates (<i>12 months</i>)		2 100 000
J.3.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Jordan (<i>42 months</i>)		9 600 000
J.3.3 Smallholder value chain development in northern Jordan (<i>jointly with ILO, 36 months</i>)		10 410 400
J.4 Intensification and diversification of smallholder agriculture and food production in northern Jordan		8 949 400
J.4.1 Enhanced rural household energy in rural communities hosting Syrian refugees (<i>18 months</i>)		1 500 000
J.4.2 Climate-smart smallholder agricultural production through participatory extension approaches in northern Jordan (<i>54 months</i>)		7 449 400
J.5 Phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Jordan		2 715 700
J.5.1 Strengthening the control, reporting and early warning systems for transboundary plant diseases and pests and improved plant protection services (<i>30 months</i>)		2 715 700
J.6 Strengthening the national capacity for community-based natural resource management in the Badia rangelands of Jordan		6 179 800
J.6.1 Community-based water harvesting and range management in the northeast Badia (<i>24 months</i>)		916 300
J.6.2 Forest policy development (<i>18 months</i>)		
J.6.3 Restoring pastoral livelihoods and reducing land degradation through community-based range management in the Badia (<i>in support of WFP and United Nations Compensation Council [UNCC]-funded projects, 54 months</i>)		5 263 500
J.7 Food nutrition for Syrian refugees in Jordan		870 000
J.7.1 Improved food nutrition and food safety for Syrian refugees in host communities (<i>12 months</i>)		870 000
Total		51 131 400

5.2.3 Lebanon

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
L.1 Strengthening resilience through improved livestock productivity		9 119 400
L.1.1	Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock grazing in areas along the Syria-Lebanon border (<i>20 months</i>)	3 000 000
L.1.2	Increased income generation through sustainable improvements in livestock production of vulnerable smallholders affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)	6 119 400
L.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in disaster management and related regulatory frameworks		9 531 800
L.2.1	Coordination and monitoring for food security and agricultural livelihoods emergency and recovery in rural areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>24 months</i>)	1 165 400
L.2.2	Strengthening disaster and crisis management capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders (<i>36 months</i>)	1 866 400
L.2.3	Upgrading input supply regulatory systems for agriculture Emergency and recovery (<i>36 months</i>)	3 900 000
L.2.4	Policy and strategy development for improved domestic and export marketing of key commodities from areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)	2 600 000
L.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor Lebanese farming communities to the Syria crisis		23 436 500
L.3.1	Relieving the suffering of Lebanese returnees and host communities through the recovery of smallholder agricultural production (<i>12 months</i>)	
L.3.2	Rehabilitation of the dairy subsector to improve food security and nutrition of Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities (<i>12 months</i>)	6 900 000
L.3.3	Strengthening the resilience of resource-poor farm families and returnees through improved crop production, agroprocessing and marketing (<i>36 months</i>)	4 036 500
L.3.4	Reinforcing the resilience of Lebanese farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through value chain development (<i>jointly with ILO, 48 months</i>)	12 500 000
L.4 Food safety and phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Lebanon		2 715 700
L.4.1	Improved food quality control services along the Syria border in Lebanon (<i>30 months</i>)	2 715 700
L.5 Natural resource management in areas seriously affected by the impact of the Syria crisis		4 081 800
L.5.1	Protection and recovery of vital natural resources seriously affected by the Syria crisis in Akkar, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel and Bekaa Governorates (<i>36 months</i>)	4 081 800
L.6 Enhanced food nutrition for vulnerable rural families affected by the Syria crisis		1 519 300
L.6.1	Improving food security and nutritional value at community and household levels for resource-poor rural families of eastern and northern Lebanon affected by the Syria crisis (<i>18 months</i>)	1 519 300
Total		50 404 500

5.2.4 Iraq

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
I.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services		7 221 000
I.1.1 Emergency control of TADs in Ninawa Governorate (<i>18 months</i>)		1 365 000
I.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses in northern Iraq (<i>30 months</i>)		5 856 000
I.2 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees in northern Iraq		16 514 000
I.2.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees (<i>12 months</i>)		4 800 000
I.2.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Kurdistan region (<i>42 months</i>)		5 620 000
I.2.3 Smallholder value chain development in the Kurdistan region (<i>36 months</i>)		6 094 000
Total		23 735 000

5.2.5 Egypt

Programme:		USD
Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)		
Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)		
Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)		
E.1 Enhance food security information, knowledge sharing and agriculture resilience programming		3 500 000
E.1.1 National agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (<i>36 months</i>)		3 500 000
E.2 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt		18 755 600
E.2.1 Urban farming in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)		1 804 000
E.2.2 Enhanced food nutrition and income generation in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)		
E.2.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>36 months</i>)		6 451 600
E.2.4 Support to value chain development for small-scale food producers and processors from peri-urban areas of Egypt (<i>48 months</i>)		10 500 000
Total		22 255 600

5.2.6 Turkey

Programme:		USD
T.1 (Short term) Food nutrition and income generation for Syrian refugees through support to “micro-gardening” initiatives in selected refugee camps (<i>12 months</i>)		1 012 000
T.2 (Short term) Recovery of smallholder agriculture production and marketing in the impoverished Syria border areas of Turkey (2 x 12 months, <i>i.e. annual subsidies for the duration of the crisis</i>)		12 000 000
Total		13 012 000

5.2.7 Regional

Programme:	USD
R.1 (Long term) Strengthening regional capacity for the control of TADs in the Near East region (<i>42 months</i>)	14 218 000
R.2 (Long term) Subregional agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (<i>48 months</i>)	4 496 800
Total	18 714 800

5.3 Cross-cutting actions

There are four cross-cutting actions which would support the 26 above-mentioned programmes and their 51 subprogrammes (Section 5.2.1 to 5.2.7, inclusive).

5.3.1 Capacity development

Although “capacity development of Ministries of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food security and natural resource information systems, etc.” has been identified as programmes for Jordan and Lebanon, FAO would support stakeholders across all 25 programmes proposed for Syria and its five neighbouring countries according to the Organization’s Capacity Development Framework¹⁵. FAO’s Capacity Development Framework is an analytical tool that guides FAO staff and their partners in analysing jointly existing situations in terms of capacities and identifying the appropriate type(s) of intervention for fostering the development of capacities in countries such as Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey. The Framework is based on the enhancement of technical and functional capacities (i.e. policy/normative, knowledge, partnering and implementation), which are prerequisites to achieving the Global Goals of FAO Member States (Annex 1) across three dimensions; namely, individuals (e.g. men and women farmers and extension workers), organizational (e.g. Ministries of Agriculture and men and women farmers’ groups, farmers’ associations and cooperatives) and the enabling environment (e.g. policy development and market information). Special attention would also be given to address gender issues in capacity development activities to raise awareness of the specific concerns of female- and child-headed households.

5.3.2 Gender equity

It is essential to increase the importance given to gender-based analysis. In particular, it is necessary to identify specific needs and capacities with regard to men, women, boys, girls and the elderly and/or disabled in order to implement targeted actions and strengthen their livelihood resilience in crisis situations. Women play a fundamental role at all levels of the Near East region’s food and nutrition systems. They are often responsible for managing the family plots or small homestead gardens and are very much involved in developing and cultivating larger household plots. In Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey, women are more vulnerable in the event of crises because of their more limited access to production inputs, especially to credit and inputs (e.g. seeds, fertilizers, phytosanitary products, etc.), as well as land and water. Special attention will be given to gender division of labour and to address women’s burdens, identifying labour-saving technologies and income-generating activities. As a result, and in line with an approach which seeks to integrate nutritional support and increase resilience, FAO aims to give priority to women in its emergency, recovery and development interventions in Syria and its neighbouring countries over the next five years.

¹⁵ FAO; Corporate Strategy for Capacity Development; 2012.

The gender issues among the Syrian refugees should also be acknowledged given that considerable numbers of refugees are from female-headed households, i.e. widows, women abandoned by their husbands and women whose husbands are in detention or hiding from Syrian authorities. These households are particularly vulnerable. In addition, the gender relations and roles within the refugee families are changing, which makes it possible to challenge some traditional attitudes. Careful gender analysis is needed throughout the implementation of the Action Plan to increase women's access to resources and services.

5.3.3 Strategic partnerships

It is acknowledged by all actors that no sectoral intervention alone would build resilience for sustainable development, which could only be achieved through complementary actions in relation with the respective mandates and comparative advantages that each actor brings in addressing resilience from different angles. In this regard, FAO's Subregional Action Plan would complement important humanitarian assistance aimed at addressing the life-saving needs of the Syrian IDPs and refugees and returnees of other nationalities (e.g. within SHARP and RRP6, Annex 2). These groups are targeted in the Action Plan under short-term subprogrammes, while medium- and long-term subprogrammes predominantly focus on host communities and national authorities. The complementarities of these actions, in properly and comprehensively addressing the needs of IDPs, refugees, returnees and host communities, is essential to reduce competition over natural and economic resources and maintain social cohesion.

In line with OCHA's proposed Comprehensive Regional Strategy (Annex 2), FAO and the national Ministries of Agriculture would ensure that strategic partnerships and alliances are created for each of the aforementioned programmes at the local, national, regional and global levels in order to share the burden of and encompass the intervention of the widest possible partnerships and knowledge sharing for strengthening the resilience of those most vulnerable rural populations in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey affected by the Syria crisis. The FAO Subregional Action Plan would represent an essential component (for agriculture, food and nutrition security and natural resources) to the contributions of all partners supporting resilience in the respective countries. Potential partnerships include the following:

- **Specialized NGOs such as the Red Crescent Movement, ACTED and Mercy Corps** – agricultural livelihoods and natural resources survey and analysis of Syrian refugees and host communities in all affected areas (e.g. Subprogrammes No. J.2.1 and L.2.1) and capacity development of rural CBOs and water harvesting in Jordan and Lebanon (e.g. Programmes No. J.3, J.4, J.5 and L.5).
- **Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) of FAO** – surveillance and control of TADs in the Near East region (e.g. Programmes No. J.1, L.1, I.1 and R.1).
- **FAO's GIEWS and FAO/WFP global Food Security Cluster** – agricultural livelihoods and food and nutrition security information systems across the Near East region (e.g. Programmes No. J.2, L.2 and R.2).
- **UNICEF, WFP and WHO** – promotion of food and nutrition security and food quality and safety interventions across the Near East region (e.g. Programmes and Subprogrammes No. S.3, S.4, S.5, J.3.1, J.3.2, J.6, L.3.1, L.3.2, L.7, I.2.1, I.2.2, E.1.1, E.1.2 and T.1).
- **ILO** – value chain development (e.g. Subprogrammes No. J.3.3, L.3.4, I.2.3 and E.1.3).
- **UNDP and WFP** – development of national agriculture policies in Jordan (e.g. Subprogramme No. J.2.1).
- **ADELNORD project in Lebanon¹⁶, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), UNDP, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and WFP** –

¹⁶ ADELNORD project (*Projet d'Appui au Développement Local au Nord du Liban*) is funded by the European Union and has three components: development and rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure such as irrigation canals, agriculture roads and small lakes for irrigation water storage; community development; and supporting the protection of natural resources.

implementation of natural resource management interventions in Jordan and Lebanon (e.g. Programmes No. J.6 and L.5).

- **ICARDA** – adaptive research for new and improved agricultural production and post-harvest technologies and practices across all relevant subprogrammes (including linkages to germplasm and seed production, conservation agriculture, wastewater management, wheat rust surveillance, integrated pest management, small ruminant production, range management and water harvesting initiatives in the Near East region).
- **IFAD** – promotion of rural incomes through market enhancement in Egypt, agricultural resource management in Jordan, hilly area sustainable agricultural development in Lebanon and village improvement in Turkey (e.g. Programmes No. J.4, J.6, L.3, L.5, E.1.3 and T.2).

5.4 Subprogramme priorities

As mentioned earlier, FAO has prepared a five-year action plan of three simultaneous tracks/timeframes: short-term emergency relief and policy development, medium-term recovery of agricultural livelihoods and long-term agricultural and rural development. Like the sequencing of project interventions, the proposed prioritization is based on a combination of criteria such as: (i) unknown duration of the Syria crisis; (ii) humanitarian situation in conflict areas of Syria, refugee camps and host communities and urgent need for emergency relief (including nutritious food); (iii) determining the priority and integrated nature of subprogrammes, as they contribute to achieving the strategic objectives of regional and national comprehensive strategies, resilience plans and roadmaps (including FAO’s Subregional Strategy for Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis); (iv) readiness for implementation, given the current environments of Syria and its neighbouring countries; (v) expected impact of the short-, medium- and long-term national and regional subprogrammes linked to national long-term development agenda; and (vi) expected availability of government and donor funding.

FAO and national Ministries of Agriculture have tentatively agreed that prioritization for resource mobilization and operationalization of the above-mentioned programmes and short-, medium- and long-term subprogrammes be given to the short-term emergency relief interventions (as presented to SHARP and RRP6), but with the inclusion of policy and capacity development initiatives (as presented to this FAO Subregional Action Plan), that will ensure that short-term interventions can be scaled up and overlapping and interlocking medium-term agricultural livelihood recovery interventions be prepared and implemented in an efficient and effective manner. The long-term subprogrammes do not need to wait for completion of the short- and medium-term subprogrammes – they are deemed as interventions aimed at mitigating the impact of the Syria crisis through a sustained development impact (e.g. the extensive use and depletion of physical assets and need for adaptation of agricultural technologies and management practices *vis a vis* climate change).

5.5 Subregional Action Plan budget

The total cost of the FAO “Subregional Action Plan: Resilient Livelihoods and Food and Agriculture Security in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis” is estimated at **USD 279.83 million** over a period of five years. A breakdown of cost estimates by programme intervention areas, countries and tracks/timeframes are provided in Tables 5, 6 and 7, respectively. Further details on the Subregional Action Plan’s budget are provided in Annex 4.

**Table 5. Action Plan:
Cost Estimate – Intervention**

Programme intervention area	USD (million)
Control of TADs	40.11
Capacity development	20.96
Income generation and employment	101.33
Natural resource management	10.26
Control of plant diseases and pests	5.43
Diversification and intensification	99.35
Food nutrition and food safety	2.39
Total	279.83

**Table 6. Action Plan:
Cost Estimate – Country**

Country	USD (million)
Syria	100.58
Jordan	51.13
Lebanon	50.41
Iraq	23.74
Egypt	22.26
Turkey	13.01
Regional	18.72
Total	279.83

**Table 7. Action Plan:
Cost Estimate – Track**

Track	USD (million)
Short term	85.88
Medium term	123.02
Long term	70.93
Total	279.83

5.6 Connection between FAO’s Subregional Action Plan and FAO’s regional initiatives

Further to FAO’s Priority Areas for the Near East region (Annex 1), the FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa is in the process of developing three regional initiatives to support national programmes and policies of member countries, such as Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. These are presented below.

(i) Water scarcity

The “Regional Water Scarcity Initiative” comes in support of FAO Member States in identifying priority areas of action in water management that can significantly contribute to boosting agriculture productivity, improving food security and using water resources in a more sustainable way. The rationale behind the initiative is described in FAO’s Water Report 38: “Coping with Water Scarcity: an Action Framework for Agriculture and Food Security”. The proposed approach helps guide decision makers’ choices among the range of available food supply options associated with water management. It distinguishes between “supply-side” options, aiming at increasing the volumes of water available for food production, and the “demand-side” options that focus on efficient use of water for food production, including “water accounting/water auditing” and national “water management knowledge gap analysis”. It also acknowledges that options to cope with water scarcity lie both inside and outside the water domain, and extends the discussion beyond water to issues related to national food security and trade and control of food waste, including national “food supply options”.

It is anticipated that relevant “water supply and demand” and “water management knowledge gap analysis” elements of Programmes No. S.1, J.2, J.3, J.4, J.6, L.3, L.5 and R.2 will be incorporated in the “Regional Water Scarcity Initiative”.

(ii) Food security and nutrition

The primary emphasis of the regional initiative on “Building Resilience to Enhance Food Security and Nutrition for the Near East and North Africa” will be on improving food security policy and governance for food security and nutrition, and building resilient food security and nutrition institutions, markets and production systems through improved coordination and integration of actions at the subnational, national and regional levels. Within this framework, five areas of action are considered crucial for the focus of the initiative: (i) strengthening of capacities for developing coherent policy frameworks and investment programme for sustainable food security and nutrition at the national and regional levels; (ii) developing efficient evidence-based food security information and knowledge exchange for decision support systems; (iii) promoting the development of efficient and sustainable food systems with specific attention to reducing food losses and waste; (iv) promoting sustainable access of households to safe, nutritious and diversified food; and (v) building the resilience of households and communities and agro-ecosystems to anticipate, absorb and recover from the negative impacts of human-induced and natural shocks.

It is anticipated that relevant food and nutrition security, food safety and information systems elements of Programmes No. S.5, J.3, J.7, L.3, L.4, L.6, E.1 and R.2 will be incorporated in the “Regional Food and Nutrition Security Initiative”.

(iii) Sustainable small-scale agriculture for inclusive development

The regional initiative for “Sustainable Small-scale Agriculture for Inclusive Development” will focus on countries in which the smallholder subsector is particularly relevant in view of improving and increasing agricultural production and productivity, and integrate it with non-agricultural income and employment generation activities that focus on youth inclusiveness in the agriculture sector, vulnerability of the natural resource base and exposure to natural and human-induced threats. The objectives of the proposed initiative are to: (i) establish an updated analytical knowledge base of small-scale agricultural systems, disaggregated by gender and age, inclusive of FAO and other partners’ work; (ii) effectively engage target smallholders and other relevant beneficiaries, including key national institutions; (iii) implement the field actions (e.g. FFS, community animal resources development workers, producers’ associations, fishers’ associations and professional organizations) as a way to raise awareness and promote the initiative and its relevance among stakeholders; and (iv) produce a plan of work for the longer-term implementation of the initiative.

It is anticipated that relevant smallholder engagement, adaptive research and participatory extension and information systems elements of Programmes No. J.2, J.3, J.4, J.6, L.1, L.3, L.5, I.2, E.1 and R.2 will be incorporated in the “Regional Sustainable Small-scale Agriculture Initiative”.

**Connection between FAO's Subregional Strategy and Action Plan and
FAO's Strategic Framework and related past and ongoing work
in food And agricultural relief, recovery and development**

1. FAO's Strategic Framework, 2010–2019

1.1 FAO's Strategic Objectives

FAO's Strategic Framework for the period 2010–2019 has a vision that “by 2020, we will be living in a world free of hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner”. This will be achieved through the active pursuit of three global goals, viz:

- i. Reduction in the number of people suffering from hunger, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.
- ii. Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods.
- iii. Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Added to these global goals, strategic objectives and priority areas, FAO has also identified six guiding principles to underpin the Organization's development work in countries such as Pakistan, viz: (i) work through participatory and process-oriented approaches; (ii) build on existing knowledge, methods and capacities; (iii) ensure complementarity of actions and links with other stakeholders and actors; (iv) focus on capacity development of rural communities and all other stakeholders of the food chain; (v) focus on gender equity; and (vi) promote “do no harm” and “rights-based” approaches.

In order to achieve the vision of FAO and the global goals of its members, the Organization has defined five Strategic Objectives (SOs). They focus on where FAO can best assist member states to achieve sustainable impacts in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing food, agriculture and rural development. The Strategic Objectives represent a combination of interlinked and cross-sectoral impacts, addressing the areas of crops, livestock, fisheries, food safety, forestry, natural resources, enabling environments, food security, gender, emergencies and investment, viz: (SO1) eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition; (SO2) increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner; (SO3) improve the livelihoods of rural populations and, in particular for women and youth, through enhanced employment opportunities and conditions, increased access to productive resources and rural services; (SO4) enable more inclusive and efficient food and agricultural systems at local, national and international levels; and (SO5) increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

1.2 FAO's Regional Priority Areas

In 2012, FAO's Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (RNE) defined five Priority Areas for the Near East region. The focus of this Subregional Action is in areas of direct relevance to FAO/RNE's Priority Area E, “preparedness for, and response to, food and agriculture emergencies”; while supporting Priority Area A, “enhancing food security and nutrition”; B, “fostering agricultural production and rural development for improved livelihoods”; and D, “sustainable management of natural resources”.

1.3 FAO's Country Programming Frameworks

The priority areas for FAO's collaboration with the neighbouring countries of Syria have been closely aligned to those agreed upon by the UN system with the respective governments in the context of the UNDAFs. The FAO CPFs for Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey, which were prepared through extensive stakeholder consultations in 2012, cover similar periods to the UNDAFs (i.e. 2012–2017). The priority areas of the CPFs are also consistent with FAO's corporate and regional priorities (Annex 1, Sections 1.1 and 1.2). The CPFs, which are co-owned by the individual Governments of Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey and FAO, present the broad commitment of FAO, subject to the availability of the required funding, to assist the respective Ministries of Agriculture in their efforts to achieve development objectives as articulated in national policies and strategies for the agriculture sector, food security and natural resources.

(i) Jordan

The two priority areas (of three identified) of the Jordan CPF that are relevant to the FAO Subregional Action Plan are as follows:

Priority Area A – Facilitate Multilateral Cooperation: addressing transboundary crop, livestock and fish diseases and pests, and including “support to the establishment of veterinary quarantine centres”.

Priority Area C – Pilot Innovative Approaches: including improvement of food security at the household level in rural areas; improvement of water canals to reduce losses; rangeland development in Badia (the eastern semi-desert rangelands bordering Iraq and Syria); introduction of methods of water-harvesting in rangeland areas; and post-harvest management and value chain development for small-scale farmers and livestock producers.

(ii) Lebanon

The two priority areas (of three identified) of the Lebanon CPF that are relevant to the FAO Subregional Action Plan are as follows:

Priority Area B – Agriculture/Value Chains Developed, Involving Small-scale Farmers (with a Special Focus on Young and Women Farmers) and Using Innovative Approaches and Best Practices: including increased agricultural production (with special emphasis on the dairy subsector) through improved practices and the introduction of new technologies; and improved marketing and traceability of agricultural products, development of marketing infrastructure and support to marketing systems.

Priority Area C – Research and Development Activities for the Sustainable Use and Management of Natural Resources: including the implementation of reforestation programmes; and implementation of initiatives to improve land and water management and promote the use of renewable energy sources.

(iii) Iraq

The two priority areas (of three identified) of the Road Map for Agriculture in Iraq¹⁷ that are relevant to the FAO Subregional Action Plan are as follows:

Priority Area 2 – Building Up the Investment Projects' Portfolio for Agricultural Development: including value chain development and food safety mechanisms for smallholder farmers (*e.g. cottage industries*), rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage infrastructure, and capacity building of producers' and water users' organizations.

Priority Area 3 – Normative and Technical Assistance Work on Specific Subsector Issues: including the coping of risks from outbreaks of transboundary animal and plant diseases and pests,

¹⁷ The CPF for Iraq is under preparation, but its priority areas will be similar to those of the Government of Iraq/FAO Partnership for Agricultural Development's “Road Map for Agriculture (2012–2016)”.

a coordinated approach to natural resource management (integrating forestry and rangeland management and soil conservation), and capacity building for the introduction of improved technologies for ruminant production systems.

(iv) Egypt

The one priority area (of nine identified) of the Egypt CPF that is relevant to the FAO Subregional Action Plan is as follows:

Priority Area B – Improving Productivity and Ensuring Food Security: including the promotion of self-sufficiency in strategic food commodities, improvement of consumer patterns to improve nutritional standards and vital body functions, and applying policies and programmes to encourage the consumption of local high-value food products, including meat, milk, eggs, fish, as well as foods with high vitamins and minerals such as fruit and vegetables, while achieving a positive development in per capita consumption of staple food (*through, for example, the expansion of urban and peri-urban agriculture initiatives*).

(v) Turkey

The two priority areas (of three identified) of the Turkey CPF that are relevant to the FAO Subregional Action Plan are as follows:

Priority Area 1 – Food and Nutrition Security and Food Safety: including the improvement of food safety systems, help food and nutrition security, increase food supply chain value, accelerate economic growth and alleviate rural poverty, human resource development in small and medium-size food processing and selling enterprises, and raising public awareness on food safety, organic farming, GAP, natural foods and food environment relations.

Priority Area 2 – Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Forestry: including sustainable land management and climate-friendly agriculture, such as promotion of conservation agriculture, transboundary pest and diseases monitoring, surveillance and control, promotion of integrated pest management and integrated pesticide management.

2. FAO initiatives in Syria and neighbouring countries of the Near East region¹⁸

Recently completed and ongoing FAO-supported food and agricultural projects in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey, and global and regional programmes covering all or some of the aforementioned countries, upon which an action plan for resilient livelihoods for agriculture and food and nutrition security in areas affected by the Syria crisis can be built are listed below.

(i) Syria

All of FAO's regular development programme projects in Syria have been suspended because of the protracted crisis. Since May 2012, FAO has completed the implementation of, or is at present implementing, a total of 13 emergency response projects to support food security and life-saving livelihoods in rural areas, viz:

- UN/Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)-funded and FAO-implemented "Emergency response to support life-saving livelihoods and food security of poor small herders and farmers households affected by the ongoing crisis in Idlib, Homs, Hama and Deir Ezzor Provinces of the Syrian Arab Republic" (2012; USD 728 000).
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)-funded and FAO-implemented "Emergency response to support life-saving/sustaining livelihoods and food security of poor small herders and farmers households affected by the ongoing crisis in Idlib, Deir Ezzor, Aleppo, Hama and Rural Damascus Provinces of the Syrian Arab Republic" (2012–2013; USD 981 000).
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation-funded and FAO-implemented "Emergency response to support life-saving livelihoods and food security of poor small herders and farmers

¹⁸ FAO-funded unless otherwise stated.

households affected by the ongoing crisis in Deir Ezzor, Hama and Rural Damascus Provinces of the Syrian Arab Republic” (2012–2013; USD 880 000).

- UN/CERF-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency response to support life-saving livelihoods and food security of poor small herders and farmer households affected by the ongoing crisis in Idlib, Homs, Hama and Dara’a Provinces of the Syrian Arab Republic” (2012–2013; USD 2 million).
- United Kingdom (UK)/Department for International Development (DFID)-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency livelihood assistance to rural and peri-urban households affected by the ongoing crisis” (2013; USD 1.49 million).
- UN/CERF-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency livelihood assistance to rural and peri-urban households in Homs and Dara’a Governorates” (2013; USD 1.50 million).
- Government of South Africa-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to improve food security conditions of vulnerable internally displaced households in Rural Damascus Governorate of the Syrian Arab Republic” (2013–2014; USD 94 000).
- UK/DFID-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to winter wheat and barley production in Syria” (2013–2014; USD 4.69 million).
- Government of Belgium-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to winter wheat production in the Syrian Arab Republic” (2013–2014; USD 500 000).
- Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to winter wheat production in the Syrian Arab Republic” (2013–2014; USD 652 000).
- USAID-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency assistance to strengthen veterinary services and mitigate the deterioration of the animal health situation in Syria” (2013–2014; USD 500 000).
- USAID-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to winter wheat production in the Syrian Arab Republic” (2013–2014; USD 500 000).
- UN/CERF-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency prepositioning of agricultural inputs in the Syrian Arab Republic” (2013–2014; USD 600 000).

(ii) Jordan

- Government of Jordan-funded and FAO-assisted “National special programme for food security in Jordan” (2004–2010; JD 37 million), which comprises five components and 21 projects¹⁹ in the highland regions of the country²⁰.
- “Emergency animal health assistance to pastoral small stockholders affected by drought (2001–2003; USD 330 000).
- “Technical assistance to restructuring livestock health and production delivery systems in rural Jordan” (2002–2005; USD 300 000).
- “Home gardening for better family nutrition and income in upland areas” (2004–2005; USD 210 000).
- “National Drought Mitigation Strategy” (2005–2007; USD 229 000).
- “Development of a national agricultural information system” (2006–2011; USD 269 000).
- “Sustainable agricultural production through the promotion of conservation agriculture” (2009 to 2011; USD 270 500).
- “Adaptation to climate change to sustain Jordan’s MDG achievements (2009–2012; USD 828 000).
- **“Food security and livelihoods analysis for Jordanian host communities” (2014, six months; USD 130 000) – part of Subprogramme J.2.1.**

¹⁹ The components and projects are: (a) on-farm soil and water management (three projects); (b) field crop production (two projects); (c) crop diversification, including horticulture (four projects); (d) household small livestock development (seven projects); and (e) income generation for employment and poverty alleviation (five projects).

²⁰ FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of Jordan; National Programme for Food Security Review; 2011.

- **“Strengthening the capacity of veterinary services for the control of transboundary, zoonotic and vector-borne diseases in Jordan” (2014, 12 months; USD 300 000) – part of Subprogramme J.1.1.**

(iii) Lebanon

- Four projects to sensitize stakeholders on the importance of livestock value chains in Lebanon and the necessity to encourage the control of animal diseases under a regional framework (2001–2009; USD 2.6 million).
- Two multidonor Lebanon Recovery Fund-funded and FAO-implemented projects covering early recovery assistance to agricultural smallholder producers and livestock keepers (2008–2009; USD 3.2 million).
- Multidonor Lebanon Recovery Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Integrated forest management, prevention and control and assessment and rehabilitation of damaged forests” (2008–2011; USD 2.6 million).
- Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented “Strengthening production and marketing of Lebanese agricultural products project” (2009–2013; USD 2.9 million).
- Seven FAO-funded projects for restructuration of the Lebanese agriculture sector framework (2009–2014; USD 1.4 million).
- **Multi-donor Lebanon Recovery Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Recovery and rehabilitation of the dairy sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel-Akkar Uplands project” (2009–2014; USD 3.7 million).**
- Two Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented projects “Development of water management in the Caza of Marjayoun” and “Coping with water scarcity (the role of agriculture): phase III –strengthening national capacities” (2011–2014; USD 3 million).
- CERF-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency livelihoods support for vulnerable Lebanese who fled from Syria to Lebanon seeking refuge and their hosting families project” (2013; USD 105 600)
- UK/DFID-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock grazing in areas along the Syria-Lebanon border” (2013–2014; USD 3 million); to be followed by a second phase (2014–2015; USD 3 million).
- **European Union-funded and FAO-implemented “Support to agricultural statistics capacity building of the Ministry of Agriculture” framework (2013–2015; USD 1 million).**

(iv) Iraq

- Government of Australia-funded and FAO-implemented “Emergency support to food insecure rural households through establishing home gardens in Iraq” (2009–2011; USD 3 million).
- United Nations Development Group/Iraq Trust Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Community livelihoods and micro-industry support project in rural and urban areas of northern Iraq” (2006–2009; USD 2.7 million).
- United Nations Development Group/Iraq Trust Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Strengthening the capacity of the Iraqi veterinary services for the control of zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases” (2009–2012; USD 3 million).
- **United Nations Development Group/Iraq Trust Fund-funded and FAO-implemented “Develop the performance of small ruminants (sheep and goats) and improve the level of income for small breeders” (2013–2015; USD 3.7 million) – benefiting, among others, the Governorates of Al-Anbar, Dohuk, Erbil and Ninawa that are bordering or close to Syria.**

(v) Egypt

- **Twenty-three Government of Egypt and FAO-funded and implemented projects (USD 450 000) to promote urban and semi-urban agriculture (i.e. vegetable, rabbit and honey production and school gardening).**
- Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented “Improving household food and nutrition security in Egypt by targeting women and youth” (2011–2015: USD 3 million).
- **FAO and the Governments of Germany, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America-funded assistance to TADs in Egypt – mainly for the control of highly pathogenic avian influenza, but also foot-and-mouth and brucellosis diseases (2005 to present; USD 16.7 million) – managed by FAO’s global ECTAD.**
- WFP and UNHCR’s recent initiative for a food aid voucher system and community registration, skills profiling and job placement schemes for Syrian refugees.

(vi) Turkey

Government of Turkey-funded and FAO-implemented FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme, which has provided USD 10 million in support of 30 subregional, multicountry and national agricultural projects in Central Asia and Turkey since 2009. Ongoing projects of relevance to the Syria crisis include:

- “Capacity development for analysis and strengthening of agricultural innovation systems in Central Asia and Turkey”.
- “Initiative for pesticides and pest management in Central Asia and Turkey”.
- “Enhancing organic farming in Turkey”.

Other potential funding and implementation mechanisms include:

- **Government of Turkey-funded and Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock-implemented Rural Development Support Programme**, which has provided 50 percent of grants to small- and medium-scale farmers, agroprocessing, packaging, wrapping and storage equipment/facilities, and farm and irrigation machinery/equipment (2006 to present; USD 750 million).
- “South Eastern Anatolia Project Action Plan”, which allocated USD 800 million of subsidies for the period 2008–2012 in order to undertake economic development in the local agriculture sector, improve local rural infrastructure and build the capacity of local institutions.

FAO and WFP have also established a presence in Gaziantep to support the global Food Security Cluster with regard to a response to the Syria crisis. The Cluster is working closely with AFAD of the Government of Turkey, the Turkish Red Crescent, UN humanitarian agencies, and international and national humanitarian NGOs in assisting Syrian refugees in Turkey.

(vii) Global and regional programmes

- Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented “Regional integrated pest management in the Near East” (2004–2011; USD 7.6 million).
- “Control of transboundary animal diseases in the Middle East region” (2007–2011; USD 2.9 million).
- “Support to policy consultation and actions to boost sustainable use of water and energy resources for agricultural production and livelihood improvement in the Near East and North Africa region in the context of climate change” (2010 and 2011; USD 436 000).
- “Management of the invasive plant *Solanum elaeagnifolium* in the Near East” (2010–2012; USD 389 000).
- Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented “Policy and technical support for national contingency planning in countries at direct risk of new virulent races of wheat rust” (2010–2012; USD 185 000).

- **“Strengthening veterinary quarantine capacity in the Middle East region” (2011–2013; USD 307 000).**
- **“Coping with water scarcity (the role of agriculture) – phase III, strengthening national capacities” (2011–2014; USD 2.4 million).**
- **“Management of tomato borer *Tuta absoluta* in the Near East region” (2013 and 2014; USD 440 000).**

Connection between FAO's Subregional Strategy and Action Plan and United Nations responses to the Syria Crisis

1. Syrian Arab Republic Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan, 2014

The 2014 SHARP identifies five overarching objectives, viz: (i) advocate for the protection of civilians, and in particular of those with specific vulnerabilities and prioritize their needs in accordance with principles of international law, international humanitarian and human rights law; (ii) increase the provision of appropriate life-saving emergency services and relief supplies for affected people in Syria, especially in the sectors of food and agriculture, water, sanitation, health, nutrition, shelter, education and essential non-food items; (iii) expand early recovery, and restoration/stabilization of livelihoods, supporting the rehabilitation of vital public services affected by the crisis and creating an environment for humanitarian assistance to enhance the resilience of affected communities; (iv) enhance the operational capacity of national and international humanitarian responders and support existing local and community coping mechanisms; and (v) ensure adequate levels of preparedness to respond to further emerging humanitarian needs.

UN agencies, the International Organization for Migration and international NGOs working under the 2014 SHARP seek USD 2.27 billion through 122 projects to respond to an estimated 9.3 million people across the country who are in need of critical life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection – through twelve “sector response plans”, including “food and agriculture”, “nutrition” and “early recovery and livelihoods”.

Food insecurity is increasingly widespread across Syria. A preliminary analysis of results from a recently concluded JRFNA suggests that 9.9 million people, or approximately half the country's current population, are vulnerable to food insecurity and unable to access sufficient food to meet their basic needs. Of these, an estimated 6.3 million are highly vulnerable and in critical need of sustained food and agriculture assistance (an increase of more than 50 percent since the last estimate of 4 million presented in June 2013).

In response, the 2014 SHARP Food and Agriculture Sector in Syria plans to scale up, broaden and deepen its response to support up to 4.7 million people across all 14 governorates during 2014 at an estimated cost of USD 1.12 billion. This includes: WFP emergency food assistance for 9.2 million of the most vulnerable victims of the crisis (i.e. the internally displaced, host communities, unemployed and urban poor, small-scale farmers and herders and casual labourers), 945 000 of whom will also receive FAO support to livelihoods and agricultural production. *All five short-term programmes for Syria, as presented in the FAO Subregional Action Plan, have been included in 2014 SHARP, i.e. S1, S.2, S.3, S.4 and S.5 (Section 5.2 and Annex 3).*

2. United Nations sixth Syria Regional Response Plan, 2014 (RRP6)

UNHCR data indicates that since May 2013, a net average of 127 000 people are registered as refugees each month. Based on an analysis of population movements within and from Syria, the RRP6 and the monthly registration average foresees up to 4.1 million refugees in the region by the end of 2014. This would make Syrians the largest refugee population in the world.

The RRP6 addresses three specific target populations, namely: refugees in fixed settlements, like camps; refugees and returnees living outside camp settlements; and host communities. The Plan foresees a coordinated response to the needs of new arrivals, clearer assessments of vulnerability among the existing refugee populations, and to address the most immediate local priorities, such as waste management, water supply, small-scale reconstruction and health service delivery. The response strategies were developed with a view of ensuring cost-efficiency, impact and effectiveness,

as well as accountability towards refugees and donors. This protracted displacement has placed great pressure on refugees' capacity to be self-sufficient and many have resorted to negative coping strategies.

While refugee influxes invariably incur local socio-economic consequences, the scale and depth of the Syrian refugee crisis represents an unprecedented and urgent challenge for host country authorities and the international assistance community. Consequently, an important component of the RRP6 is devoted to strengthening local service delivery and resilience, thereby promoting social cohesion and enhancing refugee and host community protection. Although limited in its intended scope and duration, the RRP6 is designed to complement longer-term development interventions upon which stabilization processes in the region will largely depend. This strategic response Plan is intended to be flexible, and will be modified as conditions change. It will be re-visited in mid-year 2014 to validate planning assumptions and harmonize interventions with other emerging platforms and plans.

Some 100 UN agencies and international NGOs working under the RRP6 seek USD 4.2 billion to respond to an estimated 6.8 million people (i.e. refugees, returnees and host communities) across the countries of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, which are in need of humanitarian assistance and protection, as well as resilience, social cohesion and local service delivery, through eight key "sector response plans", including food (3.1 million beneficiaries; USD 1.15 billion) and livelihoods (1.05 million beneficiaries; USD 273 million). ***Most short-term subprogrammes from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, as presented in the FAO Subregional Action Plan, have been included in RRP6, i.e. I.1.1 and I.2.1; J.1.1., J.2.1, J.3.1 and J.7; L.1.1, L.3.1, L.3.2 and L.3.3; and T.1.1 and T.2.1 (Section 5.2 and Annex 3).***

3. Draft OCHA-led Comprehensive Regional Strategy – Dealing with the Effects of the Syria Crisis (December 2013)

The purpose of the OCHA-led Comprehensive Regional Strategy is to provide strategic direction to the design, implementation and monitoring of interventions across the humanitarian-development spectrum, through a robust "aid sustainability" lens for greater coherence, effectiveness, efficiency and accountability. It will do so on the basis of a shared understanding of the needs and vulnerabilities across the subregion, which will in turn support in each country a common government-led process of policy making, programme prioritization and reporting.

The Comprehensive Regional Strategy aims to provide a platform through which neighbouring governments, donors, the UN, NGOs and private actors, where relevant, can harmonize their respective interventions throughout the subregion. This will allow for programming and resource allocation on the basis of a common understanding of the impact of the crisis and the effects and implications of potential responses. While the analysis is designed to be used by all actors, the Strategy does not aim to replace government and/or partner plans and strategies. It is envisioned, however, that its strategic and operational implications will directly guide the development, implementation and monitoring of UN's responses, such as SHARP, RRP6 and forthcoming UN contributions to government-led stabilization and resilience efforts.

In support of its purpose and objectives, the core components of the draft Comprehensive Regional Strategy include:

- A set of strategic and operational principles designed to guide the engagement of the international community behind nationally led efforts.
- The development of a joint analytical framework to assess needs and vulnerabilities through country specific and regional dashboards, conduct gap analysis and precise costing calculations, and draw policy and programming options/implications.
- The establishment of, or support to, mechanisms to strengthen national leadership in policy making and coordination of responses.

- The establishment of robust monitoring and reporting systems for humanitarian, development and structural assistance.

While the “detailed country chapters” of the draft Comprehensive Regional Strategy tend to focus on refugees, host community, economic and socio-political impacts, and a gap analysis on education, health and shelter/housing sectors, FAO has submitted to OCHA a contribution summarizing “food and nutrition options for intervention for the Syria crisis” for inclusion in the Comprehensive Regional Strategy (November 2013). *All short- and medium-term subprogrammes of the FAO Subregional Action Plan were included in this submission (Section 5.2 and Annex 3).*

4. UNDP-led (regional) Resilience-based Development Response to the Syria Crisis and National Resilience Plan for Jordan

The working draft of the **UNDP-led regional Resilience-based Development Response (November 2013)** aims to: (i) provide national and international development partners with a set of parameters and guidelines for the preparation of the proposed resilience-based development response for each host country; (ii) define common areas within and across countries to facilitate coordination of humanitarian and development responses to the Syria crisis, and (iii) optimize partnerships and funding mechanisms to support resilience-based development responses.

The proposed UNDP-led regional resilience-based response aims to achieve three (interrelated) strategic objectives, viz: (i) coping – the resilience of local governance, housing supply mechanisms, infrastructures and basic services are bolstered to respond to increased demand; (ii) recovery – vulnerable households (both refugees and affected communities) recover from the socio-economic impact of the conflict and consequent dislocation (in particular, stabilization of livelihoods and employment, supporting local economic revitalization and addressing needs for food and water); and (iii) sustainability – macro-economic, social and political institutions are strengthened in all host countries for sustainability (in particular, natural resource management).

The UNDP-led regional resilience-based response acknowledges the importance of achieving coherence in the two mutually reinforcing responses, i.e. “humanitarian” and “development” and, in doing so, proposes a resilience-based framework of eight indicative elements – two of which are relevant to FAO’s role in an agricultural and food approach to building resilience, viz:

- food and nutrition security, control of transboundary threats, sustainable livelihoods, and economic recovery complement the provision of food aid, agricultural inputs and assets and non-food items; and
- natural resources management and innovative solutions that save water, land and forests are cornerstones of a resilience-based approach to development.

The **Government of Jordan Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation’s Host Community Support Platform and UNDP-led National Resilience Plan, 2014-2016 (January 2014)** provides a three-year programme of high priority investments by the Government in response to the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis on Jordanian host communities – the first national resilience plan of the UNDP-led “resilience-based development response” in the region. The guiding principle of resilience suggests that all interventions be formulated with a continuum lens with a focus on longer-term action for building national and local capacity to scale up and sustain recovery efforts and development gains.

The total cost of these response interventions is estimated at USD 1.94 billion (respectively USD 590.1 in 2014, USD 772.4 million in 2015, and USD 574.8 million in 2016). It is further estimated that investments are needed in: water and sanitation (USD 750.7 million); social protection (USD 357.7 million); health (USD 339.5 million); municipal services (USD 187.3 million); livelihoods and employment (USD 161.6 million); energy (USD 105.3 million); education (USD 28.8 million); housing (USD 7.2 million); and USD 899 million for supplementary budgetary

support to compensate for additional subsidies born by the Government as a direct result of the Syria crisis.

FAO, ILO, UNDP and WFP were responsible for preparing the “investment response for livelihoods and employment”, which has an overall objective of “the capacity of poor and vulnerable households in host communities is strengthened to cope with and recover in a sustainable way from the impact of the Syria crisis, and mitigate future effects on their employment and livelihoods” and four specific objectives, viz: (i) create more and better job opportunities for the poor and the vulnerable (women and youth); (ii) revive the local economies of the most-affected areas through support to existing and new micro and small enterprises for poor and vulnerable households (women and youth); (iii) restore and preserve pastoral livelihoods, rangeland and natural resources; and (iv) improve food security for poor and vulnerable households. The livelihoods and employment response includes 14 interventions, six of which reflect *the short- and medium-term (and pilot and preparatory activities of some long-term) subprogrammes for Jordan (Section 5.2 and Annex 3) at a total estimated cost of USD 37.65 million.*

5. World Bank-led Lebanon Roadmap for Priority Interventions for Stabilization from the Syrian Conflict (November 2013)

The World Bank and the UN have supported the Government of Lebanon to prepare a “roadmap” for a preliminary set of prioritized immediate-, short- and medium-term recommendations to: restore and expand economic and livelihood opportunities, particularly to vulnerable groups, and create an enabling environment for private sector investment; restore and build resiliency in equitable access to and quality of sustainable basic public services; and strengthen social cohesion. The majority of these recommended interventions focus on alleviating the impact on the Government’s budget and deteriorating public services to host communities.

The Roadmap prioritizes certain sectors over others in view of the impact that the Syrian refugees are having on Lebanon and its population, and taking into consideration that the Syrian refugees are expected to return home once the crisis has eased. The Roadmap enables critical decision-making to allocate investments with limited resources. It also allows, for the first time, these priorities to be viewed in parallel with humanitarian needs as inextricably linked to quality of and access to services, economic development and the ability of vulnerable communities to cope. The Roadmap builds on RRP6 as a simultaneous priority to strengthen Lebanon’s resilience with immediate results, while accelerating development investments. Both frameworks will be closely coordinated to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap and gaps.

The Roadmap is a live document that could be adjusted and adapted in line with the evolving situation, and contains the following elements: high (qualitative and quantitative) impact recommendations; quantification of the costs of the recommended policies, programmes and projects; and a sequencing of recommendations over four tracks, i.e. (i) “rapid delivery and immediate impact” (ii) “short- to medium-term delivery and impact”, (iii) “longer-term delivery and impact” and (iv) parallel short to long-term “private sector engagement”) – *similar to those of the FAO Subregional Action Plan.*

The “Lebanon Host Community Support Program” (five years; USD 40 million) of Tracks One and Three Interventions of the Roadmap is an emergency and development project, which strengthens municipal services, livelihoods and social cohesion in affected communities through the financing of community-based subprojects through grants. The Roadmap further proposes that this programme be complemented by projects that promote agricultural value chains for smallholder farmers in affected areas (e.g. to assist small-scale producers’ and farmers’ cooperatives in establishing modern cold storage facilities or to assist with olive oil processing, packing and marketing). This programme could also include the *short-, medium- and long-term subprogrammes of the FAO Subregional Action Plan promoting household-based food processing, community-based agroprocessing and commodity-based value chains, i.e. L.3.1, L.3.2 and L.3.4 (Section 5.2 and Annex 3).*

**FAO Action Plan:
Resilient Livelihoods for Agriculture and Food Nutrition Security
in Areas Affected by the Syria Crisis**

**Programme profiles
(for relief, recovery and development
of agricultural livelihoods and food and nutrition security)**

1. Syria
2. Jordan
3. Lebanon
4. Iraq
5. Egypt
6. Turkey
7. Regional

1. PROGRAMME PROFILES – SYRIA

Programme:	
	Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)
	Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)
	Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)
S.1 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security information systems	
	S.1.1 Leadership and coordination of the food and agriculture sector (<i>12 months</i>)
	S.1.2 Support to the surveillance and monitoring of national food and nutrition security (<i>30 months</i>)
S.2 Support to agriculture-based livelihoods through the rehabilitation of damaged small-scale irrigation schemes	
	S.2.1 Emergency support of agriculture-based livelihoods through the implementation of “cash-for-work” for the rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals (<i>12 months</i>)
	S.2.2 Recovery of agricultural livelihoods through the rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation schemes and improved water management (<i>36 months</i>)
S.3 Enhanced resilience of smallholder farmers through improved crop production	
	S.3.1 Emergency support to crop production for impoverished farming communities affected by the crisis in Syria (<i>12 months</i>)
	S.3.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for vulnerable rural farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through the rehabilitation of sustainable input supply systems and promotion of climate-smart production technologies and practices (<i>36 months</i>)
S.4 Enhanced resilience of small-scale livestock herders through improved livestock production	
	S.4.1 Emergency assistance to support small-scale livestock herders affected by the crisis in Syria (<i>12 months</i>)
	S.4.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for small-scale livestock herders affected by the Syria crisis through improved animal health and production systems (<i>36 months</i>)
S.5 Enhanced resilience of rural and peri-urban households through integrated homestead gardening	
	S.5.1 Emergency response to restore/sustain livelihoods of vulnerable landless and marginal farmers affected by the crisis in the Syria through improved integrated horticultural and poultry production and enhanced food nutrition (<i>12 months</i>)
	S.5.2 Smallholder value chain development in provinces most severely affected by the Syria crisis

Country	Syria				
Programme name	S.1 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security information systems				
Objective	To ensure strong and effective leadership and coordination of humanitarian food and agriculture response to the Syria crisis.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.1 and 3.2): It is difficult to obtain a clear picture of humanitarian needs inside Syria, although the available information shows an overall deterioration in the food security situation. Without timely food security data, members of the Food and Agriculture Working Group and other humanitarian actors will have difficulties in accessing quality information to address the needs of severely affected populations in a coordinated and timely manner. Given the magnitude and complexity of the crisis, data sharing, consensual analysis and definition of common strategies are critical steps to limit gaps and overlap in humanitarian response. Data and information on market prices and other food security indicators are also essential to developing short- and medium-term response strategies. There is a need to improve the way that available data is collected and collated, and the methodologies to guide situation analysis, response planning and decision making in a standardised, consistent and effective manner. The agriculture sector therefore needs to continue monitoring and addressing emergency food security issues based on reliable evidence, relevant and accessible information on needs and response options.					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
				<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
S.1.1 Leadership and coordination of the food and agriculture sector (12 months)					
Outcome: Effective and efficient support to the coordination of the food security situation and response framework analysis, information management and monitoring systems in Syria.					
Outputs: (i) The agriculture sector has effective coordination mechanisms in place, including food and agriculture working groups at the national level. (ii) All sector partners and stakeholders are well informed on specific information and analysis, and are involved in sector activities as appropriate. (iii) Transparent and evidence-based decision-making mechanisms are used for determining needs, identifying gaps and prioritizing responses by humanitarian partners. (iv) Advocacy for timely, effective and coordinated food and agriculture responses, based on participatory and community-based approaches. (v) Sector contingency and disaster preparedness plans are in place and advocacy for disaster prevention and risk reduction/management concerns are carried out. (vi) Cross-cutting issues are fully integrated in sector plans and activities, based on participatory and community-based approaches. (vii) Disaggregated food security data is available.					
					<i>Continued</i>

<i>S.1 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		S.1.2 Support to the surveillance and monitoring of national food and nutrition security (30 months)			
		Outcome: Efficient and effective food and nutrition security programming for vulnerable rural communities in Syria through the establishment of a national surveillance system.			
		Outputs: (i) Continued support to all food and agriculture sector coordination and leadership interventions carried out under the short-term Subprogramme No. S.1.1, in particular the regular food security and livelihoods needs assessments. (ii) Greater understanding of food and nutrition conditions of vulnerable rural communities by stakeholders of Syria's agriculture sector through the design and establishment of harmonized food and nutrition security assessment methodologies to gather sex-and age-disaggregated data for the status of affected communities, impact of relief and recovery interventions and any uncovered needs. (ii) Enhanced capacity of MoAAR and its development partners in conducting and formulating food security assessments and agricultural recovery and rehabilitation programmes for impoverished rural areas through the development of data collection and analysis tools and reporting mechanisms for the approval of relevant stakeholders at the national level (including concerned UN agencies and donors); and training of humanitarian and development actors from MoAAR and NGOs in assessment methodologies and coordination mechanisms, including gender awareness. (iii) National mechanisms developed and maintained for sharing information on food and nutrition security.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoAAR and stakeholders of the agriculture sector in Syria Partners of the Food and Agriculture Working Group 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
		Personnel and travel		350 000	994 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoAAR ("food security units") Specialized NGOs FAO and WFP Country and Regional Offices FAO's GIEWS FAO/WFPs' global Food Security Cluster 		Contracts and training		180 000	534 000
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		0	80 000
		Technical support services		40 000	75 000
		General operating expenses		44 500	135 000
		Support costs		61 500	182 000
		Total			676 000

Country	Syria				
Project name	S.2 Support of agriculture-based livelihoods through the rehabilitation of damaged small-scale irrigation schemes				
Objective	To reduce impoverishment and increase resilience of rural populations from irrigated areas severely affected by the crisis through short-term income generation/cash transfers and the restoration of longer-term food production.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.2): Support to agriculture-based livelihoods and cash support to the most vulnerable population through the establishment and implementation of “cash-for-work” and labour-intensive schemes for the rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals in severely affected areas of Hama, Homs, Hassakeh and Deir Ezzor is a priority, as an average of 50 percent of the wheat planted in Syria is irrigated, and adequate irrigation for key staple food crops is essential. In order to support the provision of seeds and fertilizers, basic rehabilitation of critical damaged on-farm water courses and channels is required. This should be undertaken only where uptakes, primary and secondary irrigation structures are still intact. The proposed project aims at using cash transfer interventions to address economic vulnerabilities and to complement rural households income affected by the current crisis. The programme seeks to use intensive unskilled labour in order to reach the maximum possible community participation and the widest possible dispersal of cash, to help vulnerable people meet their basic needs.					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
				<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
S.2.1 Emergency support of agriculture-based livelihoods through the implementation of “cash-for-work” for the rehabilitation of damaged critical on-farm irrigation canals (12 months)					
Outcome: Increased incomes of 105 000 IDPs through “cash-for-work” interventions on damaged irrigation schemes and reduced food insecurity of affected farming families through the resumption of irrigated cropping in severely affected areas of Hama, Homs, Hassakeh and Deir Ezzor Provinces.					
Outputs: (i) Needs assessments completed, districts, irrigation schemes, beneficiaries and implementing partners selected and cash transfer mechanisms developed and adopted. (ii) Engineering surveys and designs completed and irrigation infrastructure rehabilitated through labour-based approaches in partnership with CBOs. (iii) Rehabilitated irrigation schemes functioning and farmers’ associations capable of operation and maintenance of infrastructure and water management systems for sustained crop production.					
					<i>Continued</i>

<i>S.2 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		S.2.2 Recovery of agricultural livelihoods through the rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation schemes and improved water management (36 months)		<i>The aforementioned medium-term subprogramme could be up-scaled to a long-term intervention on cessation of the crisis, but with additional capacity development of farmers' associations, government and private sector agricultural support service providers (i.e. in climate-smart agriculture, adaptive research and participatory extension approaches)</i>	
		<p>Outcome: Agricultural-based livelihoods restored and food insecurity reduced for some 45,000 vulnerable farming families in all severely affected areas of Syria through cash for work and labour-based repair and rehabilitation of damaged small-scale irrigation schemes and the sustainable resumption of irrigated cropping.</p> <p>Outputs:</p> <p>(i) Continued support to the rehabilitation of critical small-scale irrigation infrastructure interventions through labour-based approaches carried out under the short-term Subprogramme No. S.2.1.</p> <p>(ii) Rehabilitated irrigation schemes functioning and farmers' associations capable of operating and maintaining infrastructure and sustainable water distribution systems.</p> <p>(iii) Beneficiary farmers practising efficient on-farm water management systems for sustained crop production.</p> <p>(iv) FFS programmes implemented for farmers' associations to test and demonstrate efficient and effective operation and maintenance, water distribution and on-farm water management systems.</p>			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP families and crisis-affected smallholder irrigated farmers Farmers' associations Government and private sector agricultural support service providers 		FAO cost categories		Short-term (USD)	Medium-term (USD)
		Personnel and travel		500 000	1 390 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Syria's Ministries of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and of Water Resources Syrian Arab Red Crescent CBOs and local NGOs (based on the targeted provinces' situation and requirements) 		Contracts (including "cash-for-work" and training)		2 900 000	8 055 000
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		1 300 000	3 610 000
		Technical support services		90 000	250 000
		General operating expenses		119 100	330 000
		Support costs		490 900	1 365 000
		Total		5 400 000	15 000 000

Country	Syria				
Project name	S.3 Enhanced resilience of smallholder farmers through improved crop production				
Objective	To increase food access and consumption and to restore production capacity through the restoration cereal crop production by vulnerable households living in crisis-affected areas.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.2): Particularly for small-scale farmers, it is difficult to invest their residual financial resources for the procurement of agricultural inputs without having the certainty that it would be possible to harvest the crop. The increase in prices for all agricultural inputs – including seeds, fertilizer, fuel and labour – make investment in the agriculture sector uncertain and small-scale farmers, who are already facing financial constraints, are reluctant to accept the high-risk investment. Simultaneously, the disruption of agriculture markets and difficulties in processing agricultural production are reducing the efficiency of large-scale farms. Small-scale farms that can produce for the local markets are becoming increasingly important to secure food availability at the local level and can, to a certain extent, contribute to reducing food insecurity in areas severely affected by the ongoing events. In Syria, the supply of both seeds for major crops and fertilizer used to be exclusively a public sector activity. With the collapse of the state-owned companies, disruption of the commercial sectors, internal population displacements and the destruction of farmers’ own infrastructure and stocks, availability of seeds in general (and of quality seeds in particular) has decreased nationwide. Thus, seeds scarcity is a major limiting factor for sustaining or even increasing food production in the country, and an operation to provide such crucial agricultural input is fully justified.					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
S.3.1 Emergency support to crop production for impoverished farming communities affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)					
Outcome: Improved food access and consumption amongst 350 000 impoverished small-scale farming households through the provision of cereal seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. The total area to be cropped would be at least 50 000 ha. It is expected that beneficiaries will overall be able to produce at least 110 000 tonnes of wheat and barley. This would mean that targeted families could cover their needs for 12 months and have a small surplus to sell on the local market.					
Outputs: (i) Beneficiary selection committees established and functioning at the provincial, district and village levels for identification of vulnerable farming households. (ii) Procurement and distribution of wheat and barley seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs to poor/destitute farmers affected by the current crisis ensuring that each selected beneficiary farming family would be able to crop at least 1 ha.					
					<i>Continued</i>

<i>S.3 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		S.3.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for vulnerable rural farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through the rehabilitation of sustainable input supply systems and promotion of climate-smart production technologies and practices (36 months)			
		Outcome: Agricultural-based livelihoods restored and food insecurity reduced for vulnerable farming families in severely affected areas of Syria through assured access to quality agricultural inputs and improved production and post-harvest technological innovation and management practices.			
		Outputs: (i) Continued support to the recovery of crop production by vulnerable smallholder farmers carried out under the short-term <i>Subprogramme No. S.3.1.</i> (ii) Recovery of improved input supply chains (e.g. certified seeds and fertilizers), seed system security (i.e. community-based and private sector seed multiplication, seed processing, seed certification and seed marketing) and agricultural extensions services (i.e. adaptive research and farmer learning) through capacity development of government and private agricultural support service providers. (iii) Increased crop productivity and value of agricultural products produced by smallholder farmers through new and improved (“climate-smart”) production and post-harvest technologies and practices (<i>see Subprogramme J.4.2 for details</i>). (iv) FFS programmes implemented for smallholder farmers to test and demonstrate “climate-smart” technologies and practices.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vulnerable small-scale farming households (with particular attention to women-headed households) Government and private sector agricultural support service providers 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personnel and travel Contracts Training Expendable and non-expendable procurement Technical support services General operating expenses Support costs 		1 800 000	4 040 000
Implementing partners				1 600 000	5 120 000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Syria’s Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Syrian Arab Red Crescent CBOs and local NGOs (based on the targeted provinces’ situation and requirements) 				0	1 280 000
				14 000 000	24 280 000
				150 000	360 000
				631 800	1 320 000
				1 818 200	3 640 000
		Total		20 000 000	40 000 000

Country	Syria				
Project name	S.4 Enhanced resilience of small-scale livestock herders through improved livestock production				
Objective	To reduce food insecurity and resume livestock-based livelihoods through reduced animal production losses.				
<p>Rationale and justification (Section 3.2): Livestock production has been seriously affected by the current situation: it is estimated that the number of sheep has decreased by 30 percent, while the number of cattle by 40 percent. The crisis has also halted or limited to a minimum field veterinary services, such as livestock vaccination campaigns, preventive programmes and disease surveillance. Moreover, due to the continuous devaluation of the local currency, animal feed prices have soared and farmers cannot afford the required quantity of feedstuff for their animals. Livestock is the main asset in rural areas and provides the bulk of the proteins consumed in the country. The protection of remaining animal assets is therefore essential. Support should be provided to the small-scale herders to revive productive livestock activities that will improve food security and self-reliance in the shortest possible time. The provision of feed would help to preserve surviving herds, particularly during the lean season from January to April. In order to contain and avoid outbreaks of livestock diseases, veterinary care needs to be provided and cold chains for vaccines re-established. Routine veterinary treatments (deworming, anti-parasites sprays, etc.) will have a significant positive impact on animal production.</p>					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
				<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
S.4.1 Emergency assistance to support small-scale livestock herders affected by the crisis in Syria (12 months)					
Outcome: Reduced animal production losses and resumption of livestock-based livelihoods for 40 000 vulnerable herder households in Homs, Hama and Idlib Provinces.					
Outputs:					
(i) Needs assessments completed, districts, communities, beneficiaries and implementing partners selected and delivery mechanisms developed and adopted.					
(ii) Procurement, distribution and monitoring of animal feed through NGOs and formal/informal farmers' associations and networks.					
(iii) Procurement, distribution and monitoring of veterinary inputs (e.g. anti-parasites and de-wormers) through district veterinary services or formal/informal farmers' associations and networks.					
(iv) Improved animal husbandry practices adopted by beneficiary livestock herders.					
					<i>Continued</i>

<i>S.4 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		S.4.2 Recovery of agriculture-based livelihoods for small-scale livestock herders affected by the Syria crisis through improved animal health and production systems (36 months)			
		Outcome: Agricultural-based livelihoods restored and food insecurity reduced for some 560 000 small-scale herders and pastoralists in all severely affected areas of Syria through reduced risk of TADs and improved animal health and livestock production.			
		Outputs: (i) Continued support to the recovery of livestock production by vulnerable herder households and improvement of animal health services carried out under the short-term Subprogramme No. S.4.1. (ii) Reduced number of TADs outbreaks due to improved surveillance and control strategies by government veterinary services, local NGOs and CBOs. (iii) Increased number of sheep, goats and cattle vaccinated against important TADs. (iv) Increased animal wealth/weight gain due to improved animal husbandry practices, in particular basic animal health and feeding systems. (v) Government veterinary services strengthened and community-based animal health services developed and functioning.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impoverished small-scale herder households Government veterinary services and community-based animal health services 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
		Personnel and travel		1 000 000	2 520 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Syria's Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Syrian Arab Red Crescent CBOs and local NGOs(based on the targeted districts' situation and requirements) 		Contracts		800 000	400 000
		Training		0	880 000
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		6 824 900	11 020 000
		Technical support services		150 000	400 000
		General operating expenses		316 000	680 000
		Support costs		909 100	1 820 000
		Total			

Country	Syria				
Project name	S.5 Enhanced resilience of rural and peri-urban households through integrated homestead gardening and value chain development				
Objective	Enhanced food utilization by IDPs, vulnerable host communities and women-headed households through integrated homestead farming.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.2): As the crisis protracts, the capacity of the rural farming population to generate income and to access food is considerably reducing. Household access to food and national food production, including rain-fed and irrigated crops, livestock and poultry farming, have been significantly affected by the ongoing crisis. Farmers are suffering from high prices, a lack of availability and/or accessibility of farming inputs and fuel. Recent assessments have pointed out that women-headed households have been affected by recent shocks more than households headed by men and that they are particularly fragile due to limited access to property ownership and rights (especially land), income and gender wage gaps, agricultural inputs and education and information. This has resulted in a reduced coping capacity and increased dependency on external support. This project would particularly focus on the provision of an initial set of inputs, which can quickly improve household food availability and income, and complemented by activities aiming at strengthening women technical skills – implemented in cooperation with organizations addressing other constraints of vulnerable households, in particular food nutrition and hygiene.					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
				<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
S.5.1 Emergency response to restore/sustain livelihoods of vulnerable landless and marginal farmers affected by the crisis in the Syria through improved integrated horticultural and poultry production and enhanced food nutrition (12 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced availability of mineral and protein-rich foods and income generating capacities for some 30 000 landless and marginal farming families from Rural Damascus, Hama and Idlib Provinces (i.e. IDPs and host communities) through restored horticultural and poultry production.					
Outputs: (i) Needs assessments completed, districts, communities, beneficiaries and implementing partners selected and delivery mechanisms developed and adopted. (ii) Procurement, distribution and monitoring of fruit and vegetable and poultry packages through NGOs and formal/informal farmers' associations and networks. (iii) Improved integrated homestead farming, food processing and produce marketing practices adopted by beneficiary rural households. (iv) Improved hygiene, diets, food preparation and storage practices adopted by beneficiary rural households.					
		<i>Continued</i>			

<i>S.5 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		S.5.2 Smallholder value chain development in provinces most severely affected by the Syria crisis (48 months)*			
		Outcome: Small local agribusiness enterprises established and market linkages strengthened for target poor communities to increase sales of their agricultural products and improve competitiveness and sustainability of their value chains in the most severely affected provinces.			
		Outputs: (i) Small local agribusiness enterprises established and/or strengthened to enhance sustainable and inclusive agricultural input supply and produce marketing chains. (ii) Farmers' associations able to process and market food commodities on a sustainable basis through improved post-harvest management technologies and practices and market information systems. (iii) Public-private partnerships established and/or strengthened to improve input supply and marketing linkages of food-based value chains.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly impoverished and vulnerable women-headed IDP and rural host community households Farmers' associations, Government and private sector agricultural support service providers 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	
Implementing partners		Personnel and travel		750 000	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Syria's MoAAR Syrian Arab Red Crescent CBOs and local NGOs(based on the targeted districts' situation and requirements) Private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) 		Contracts		600 000	
		Training		120 000	
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		5 006 200	
		Technical support services		105 000	
		General operating expenses		237 000	
		Support costs		681 800	
		Total		7 500 000	

* Given the present situation in Syria, it is difficult to assess the final impact of the crisis on value chains of agricultural commodities, and formulate and budget an appropriate long-term development subprogramme.

2. PROGRAMME AND SUBPROGRAMME PROFILES – JORDAN

Programme:	
	Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)
	Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)
	Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)
J.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services	
	J.1.1 Emergency control of TADs (<i>18 months</i>)
	J.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses (<i>36 months</i>)
J.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security and natural resource information systems and policy development in Jordan	
	J.2.1 Agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of host communities (<i>15 months</i>)
	J.2.2 Technical support to agricultural policy development in Jordan (<i>24 months</i>)
J.3 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees	
	J.3.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafraq Governorates (<i>12 months</i>)
	J.3.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Jordan (<i>42 months</i>)
	J.3.3 Smallholder value chain development in northern Jordan (<i>jointly with ILO, 36 months</i>)
J.4 Intensification and diversification of smallholder agriculture and food production in northern Jordan	
	J.4.1 Enhanced rural household energy in rural communities hosting Syrian refugees (<i>18 months</i>)
	J.4.2 Climate-smart smallholder agricultural production through participatory extension approaches in northern Jordan (<i>54 months</i>)
J.5 Phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Jordan	
	J.5.1 Strengthening the control, reporting and early warning systems for transboundary plant diseases and pests and improved plant protection services (<i>30 months</i>)
J.6 Strengthening the national capacity for community-based natural resource management in the Badia rangelands of Jordan	
	J.6.1 Community-based water harvesting and range management in the northeast Badia (<i>24 months</i>)
	J.6.2 Forest policy development (<i>18 months</i>)
	J.6.3 Restoring pastoral livelihoods and reducing land degradation through community-based range management in the Badia (<i>in support of WFP and UNCC-funded projects, 54 months</i>)
J.7 Food nutrition for Syrian refugees in Jordan	
	J.7.1 Improved food nutrition and food safety for Syrian refugees in host communities (<i>12 months</i>)

Country	Jordan				
Programme name	J.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services				
Objective	Effective control of TADs in Jordan (particularly in governorates along the Syrian border).				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.9): High threat of TADs due to the collapse of Syria's field veterinary services and increased uncontrolled movements of unvaccinated livestock across borders. Isolated cases of LSD, PPR, rabies, external and internal parasites, zoonotic <i>rickettsia</i> , <i>cutaneous leishmania</i> and corona viruses have been reported in Jordan. The Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture lacks the capacity to develop both emergency cross-border and long-term national TAD surveillance and control systems.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
J.1.1 Emergency control of TADs (18 months)					
Outcome: Increased animal production by 17 870 livestock farmers of host communities in Syrian border areas of Irbid and Mafrq Governorates.					
Outputs: (i) Reduced number of TADs outbreaks due to improved surveillance and control by Jordanian veterinary services, including vaccination campaigns (i.e. 2.1 million animals vaccinated, of which approximately 50 percent would be financed by the Government). (ii) Increased livestock productivity within communities hosting Syrian refugees due to improved animal husbandry practices.					
J.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses (36 months)					
Outcome: Significant reduction in the threat of outbreaks of TADs and zoonoses in Jordan.					
Outputs: (i) Improved national TADs surveillance, diagnosis, reporting, disease early warning and containment systems (i.e. 3.24 million animals vaccinated annually (of which approximately 50 percent would be financed by the Government). (ii) Increased livestock production among 28 300 livestock farmers and pastoralists through improved animal health services, including the establishment of community animal health workers' networkers.					
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livestock farmers and pastoralists of northern Jordan Staff of Government, private sector veterinary and livestock extension services 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
		Personnel and travel Contracts Training Expendable and non-expendable procurement Technical support services General operating expenses Support costs Total		727 000 255 000 280 000 960 000 70 000 74 000 236 600 2 602 600	1 711 300 322 000 298 500 3 236 700 317 400 433 200 631 900 6 951 000
Implementing partners					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Livestock) Jordan University of Science and Technology (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine) CBOs FAO ECTAD 					

Country	Jordan				
Programme name	J.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in food and nutrition security and natural resource information systems and policy development in Jordan				
Objective	Promote and support efficient and effective agricultural livelihood and food security emergency and recovery programming in Jordan in response to the protracted Syria crisis.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.1):	Lack of up-to-date information on the status of livelihoods, food and nutrition security and vulnerability of communities hosting Syrian refugees. Outdated agriculture policies and crop, livestock, forestry and fisheries strategies, especially those related to coping with the protracted Syria crisis and climate change and variability.				
Subprogrammes					
	Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)
	<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i> <i>2018</i>
J.2.1 Agricultural livelihoods, natural resources and vulnerability analysis of host communities (15 months)					
Outcome: Efficient and effective agricultural livelihood and natural resource programming for rural host communities.					
Outputs: (i) Greater understanding of livelihood conditions and natural resources of vulnerable host rural communities by stakeholders of the agriculture sector (including a detailed livelihood assessment of affected areas). (ii) Enhanced capacity of Government and NGO partners in conducting and formulating livelihood assessments of impoverished rural areas.					
J.2.2 Technical support to agricultural policy development in Jordan (24 months)					
Outcome: The Ministry of Agriculture is able to prepare a national agricultural policy reflecting the present needs of the country and promoting international best practices.					
Outputs: (i) An effective Geographic Information System Unit capable of supporting Ministry of Agriculture in the development of subsectoral strategies. (ii) Preparation and adoption of the National Agricultural Development Policy, 2014–2020 and related strategies for international best practices in all subsectors (including DRM).					
Beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture's Food Security and Rural Development Unit and Planning and Studies Department) Staff of specialized NGOs (e.g. ACTED and National Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition [NAJMAH]) 			Cost estimate	
Implementing partners				FAO cost categories	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture (Food Security and Rural Development Unit and Planning and Studies Department) Specialized NGOs, such as ACTED and NAJMAH FAO, UNDP and WFP FAO GIEWS FAO/WFP global Food Security Cluster 	Personnel and travel		435 000		
	Contracts		110 000		
		Training		60 000	
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		60 000	
		Technical support services		24 000	
		General operating expenses		55 000	
		Support costs		74 500	
		Total		752 500	

Country	Jordan				
Programme name	J.3 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees				
Objective	To enhance income generating opportunities and food utilisation capacities of landless and marginal farming families of vulnerable rural communities hosting Syrian refugees.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.2 and 3.8): Serious declines in (formal and informal) trade between Jordan and Syria, and the closure of important trade routes passing through Syria, have resulted in a significant increase in the cost of agricultural production inputs, an inability for smallholder farmers to market their perishable horticultural produce and an overall fall in farm-gate prices. The increasing availability of Syrian labour has also resulted in a significant decrease in farm wages for those landless and marginal Jordanian farming families reliant on seasonal agricultural work. This has all meant an overall reduction in the income of already vulnerable families of landless, marginal and small-scale farmers and worsened their living conditions, in particular their ability to purchase safe and nutritious foodstuffs, thereby affecting their diets and nutrition security.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
J.3.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farming families hosting Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafrqa Governorates (12 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced income generating and food utilization capacities for some 4 000 landless and marginal farming families of rural host communities.					
Outputs: (i) Increased integrated homestead farming production through the adoption of new and improved poultry, horticultural and micro-irrigation technologies and practices. (iii) Improved household food nutrition security through healthier diets and better food preparation and storage. (ii) Increased capacity of Government and private agricultural service providers, and lead men and women farmers to promote integrated homestead farming approaches and improved food nutrition and food safety.					
J.3.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Jordan (42 months)					
Outcome: To increase the income generating opportunities and food utilization capacities of 14 730 landless and marginal farming families in Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Jarash, Karak Mafrqa and Zarqa Governorates.					
Outputs: (i) Increased integrated homestead farming production through the adoption of new and improved poultry, horticultural and wastewater/micro-irrigation technologies and practices. (iii) Reduced post-harvest losses and improved quality of animal and horticultural products consumed and sold in local markets. (ii) Increased capacity of Government and private agricultural service providers, and lead men and women farmers to promote integrated homestead farming approaches, post-harvest management techniques and improved food nutrition and food safety.					
				<i>Continued</i>	

<i>J.3 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
			J.3.3 Smallholder value chain development in northern Jordan (jointly with ILO, 36 months) Outcome: Small local agribusiness enterprises established and market linkages strengthened for target poor communities to increase sales of their agricultural products and improve competitiveness and sustainability of their value chains in governorates hosting Syrian refugees. Outputs: (i) Small local agribusiness enterprises established and/or strengthened to enhance sustainable and inclusive agricultural input supply and produce marketing chains. (ii) Farmers' associations able to process and market food commodities on a sustainable basis through improved post-harvest management technologies and practices and market information systems. (iii) Public-private partnerships established and/or strengthened to improve input supply and marketing linkages of food-based value chains.		
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landless and marginal farming families hosting Syrian refugees Government staff, NGO and private agricultural service providers (e.g. extension workers, input suppliers and buyers) 		FAO cost categories	Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)	Long term (USD)
		Personnel and travel	441 000	3 243 300	3 785 600
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture and National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension NGOs (e.g. Mercy Corps) CBOs and farmers' associations Private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) 		Contracts	210 000	1 422 100	1 643 200
		Training	189 000	1 469 800	1 726 400
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement	957 000	1 955 400	1 591 200
		Technical support services	51 000	198 800	208 000
		General operating expenses	63 000	493 300	509 600
		Support costs	189 000	871 300	946 400
		Total	2 100 000	9 600 000	10 410 400

Country	Jordan					
Programme name	J.4 Intensification and diversification of smallholder agriculture and food production in northern Jordan					
Objective	Promotion of climate-smart agriculture technologies and practices through community-based adaptive research and participatory extension approaches (particularly for rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Irbid and Mafrqa Governorates).					
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.2, 3.6.1 and 3.8): The Jordanian agriculture sector, by global and Syrian standards, has low levels of crop and livestock productivity and, prior to the Syria crisis, was already struggling to cope with the challenges of climate change. Since the crisis, smallholder farmers (especially those from border areas) have suffered a significant increase in the cost of agricultural inputs, an inability to market perishable horticultural produce (to traditional export markets, e.g. Syria) and an overall fall in farm-gate prices – and therefore need to diversify.						
Subprogrammes						
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)		
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
J.4.1 Enhanced rural household energy in rural communities hosting Syrian refugees (18 months)						
Outcome: Significant increase in the use of alternative and sustainable rural household energy sources by vulnerable rural host communities.						
Outputs: Some 2 450 farming families using cheaper and environmentally friendly energy sources for cooking and heating (through cash transfers); and generating income from their local manufacture (e.g. olive pomace oil).						
J.4.2 Climate-smart smallholder agricultural production through participatory extension approaches in northern Jordan (54 months)						
Outcome: Increased food availability and access by 9 560 marginal and small-scale farmers from communities hosting Syrian refugees through agricultural intensification and diversification, and the validation and adoption of new and improved sustainable crop and livestock production and post-harvest management technologies and practices (initially in Irbid and Mafrqa Governorates, and ultimately in Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Jarash, Karak and Zarqa Governorates).						
Outputs: (i) Increased crop and livestock productivity and value of agricultural products produced through improved and sustainable technological innovation and management practices (e.g. conservation agriculture; water harvesting; on-farm water management; integrated pest and disease management; integrated plant soil nutrient management; eradication of invasive weeds [e.g. <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>]; integrated livestock production, including fodder production and improved cross-breeding; post-harvest management; food safety; alternative rural energy; basic farm management/book-keeping; DRR; and gender dynamics). (ii) Increased capacity of government and private agricultural service providers and lead men and women farmers to promote “climate-smart” agricultural technologies and practices through group-based adaptive research and participatory extension approaches (e.g. FFS).						
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginal and small-scale farming families • Staff of Government and private sector agricultural extension services 			FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium/long term (USD)
Implementing partners			Personnel and travel	341 300	1 711 000	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Jordan’s Ministry of Agriculture and National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension • NGOs (e.g. Mercy Corps) • CBOs • FAO and ICARDA 			Contracts	208 500	1 183 200	
			Training	154 500	876 800	
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement	557 700	2 647 400	
			Technical support services	22 500	87 000	
			General operating expenses	69 000	266 800	
			Support costs	135 400	677 200	
			Total	1 500 000	7 449 400	

Country	Jordan					
Programme name	J.5 Phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Jordan					
Objective	Promote effective control and eradications of transboundary plants pests in the country through improved diagnostics, reporting and early warning capacities, and the application of the necessary measures for pest control.					
Rationale and justification (Section 3.10): The prevailing conditions and collapse of the plant and phytosanitary services in Syria generate a serious risk of transboundary crop pests and disease, as plants and plant products are taken across the border without any control. This hazard is heightened given the weak phytosanitary inspection systems in Jordan – particularly at existing border crossings with Syria and especially so at the new border crossings with Iraq and Syria.						
Subprogrammes						
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term agricultural recovery (1 to 3 years)			Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
		J.5.1 National control of transboundary plant diseases and pests (30 months)				
		<p>Outcome: Enhanced control of transboundary plant diseases and pests, reporting and early warning systems and improved plant protection services, particularly in Ajloun, Amman, Balqa, Irbid, Jarash, Karak, Mafraq and Zarqa Governorates (benefiting some 5 000 smallholder farmers and 80 agricultural engineers of the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE)).</p>				
		<p>Outputs:</p> <p>(i) Identification of the main areas of contamination and the incidence of crop pests and diseases through detailed national surveys and analysis.</p> <p>(ii) Formulation and implementation of a plant disease and pest control campaign in the most affected areas for the important crops most at risk.</p> <p>(iii) Strengthening the diagnosis and reporting capacity of plant protection services, particularly in border areas with Syria and Iraq, including the upgrading of phytosanitary laboratory facilities at or near border crossings, updating post-entry regulation measures and improving treatments.</p> <p>(iv) Establishment of a national early warning system for plant diseases and pests.</p> <p>(v) Implementation of FFS in northern Jordan to test and demonstrate integrated pest management practices (i.e. identification, control and reporting of crop pest and disease, as well as the most appropriate means of disease and pest control and prevention).</p>				
Beneficiaries				Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smallholder farmers participating in FFS Agricultural engineers/extension workers of NCARE 				FAO cost categories		Short/medium term (USD)
				Personnel and travel		695 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministries of Agriculture (Plant Protection Department) and of Industry and Trade and NCARE Farmers' groups and associations FAO 				Contracts		350 000
				Training		301 000
				Expendable and non-expendable procurement		942 800
				Technical support services		40 000
				General operating expenses		140 000
				Support costs		246 900
				Total	2 715 700	

Country	Jordan				
Programme name	J.6 Strengthening the national capacity for community-based natural resource management in the Badia rangelands of Jordan				
Objective	Restoring pastoral livelihoods and reducing land degradation through sustainable community-based range management initiatives on the Badia rangelands of Jordan (particularly for communities hosting Syrian refugees and Syrian herders in Mafraq Governorate).				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.11 and 3.8): A serious threat is the increasing risk of land degradation and potential “desertification” in the Badia rangelands of Mafraq Governorate because nomadic and transhumant herds are not able to seasonally migrate to Syria, and therefore stay in the Badia for longer periods than tradition dictates, as well as overgraze the fragile pastures. The limited water resources of the Badia are also seriously at risk given the increasing demand of refugees, livestock populations and irrigated farmers. The Ministry of Environment recently launched a UNCC-funded USD 160 million Badia Ecosystem Restoration Program (BERP), which focuses on water harvesting and rangeland improvement, but lacks a community focus for resource ownership, range management and environmental and economic sustainability. WFP recently launched a USD 24 million “food assistance for assets and training” project, which includes water harvesting, land reclamation and income-generating/agroprocessing interventions. The project is lacking a community-based approach. The Ministry of Agriculture is an implementing partner of both projects.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
J.6.1 Community-based water harvesting and range management in the northeast Badia (24 months)					
Outcome: Community-based water harvesting and range management approaches adopted by stakeholders of the Badia rangelands in Mafraq Governorate, targeting 4 450 livestock farmers and pastoralists (with 700 100 cattle, sheep and goats).					
Outputs: (i) Appropriate community-based water harvesting technologies and gender-sensitive water management approaches tested and validated (including the construction/rehabilitation of water points). (ii) Appropriate community-based range management practices tested and validated (including linkages with the Savory Institute, Zimbabwe).					
J.6.2 Forest policy development (18 months)					
Outcome: Community-based forest management approaches adopted by stakeholders of the Jordanian forestry sector.					
Output: (i) National Forest Policy Statement (2007) reviewed and updated. (ii) National Forest Policy – reflecting international best practice in community-based forest management – prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and promulgated by the Government of Jordan.					

<i>J.6 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
J.6.3 Restoring pastoral livelihoods and reducing land degradation through community-based range management in the Badia (in support of WFP and UNCC-funded projects, 54 month)					
Outcome: Increased animal wealth of pastoralists grazing the Badia rangelands of Jordan through the more sustainable use of natural resources (i.e. water, forests, pastures, etc).					
Outputs: (building on lessons learned from the short-term intervention and shared with BERP and WFP-supported projects):					
(i) Validated community-based water harvesting technologies and integrated water management practices replicated and up-scaled by livestock farmers and pastoralists.					
(ii) Validated community-based range management practices replicated and up-scaled by livestock farmers, pastoralists and Bedouin herders.					
(iii) Community animal health services established and community animal health workers trained and equipped.					
(iv) Enhanced household income generated and sustained through improved post-harvest management of animal products, e.g. agroprocessing, packaging and marketing.					
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livestock farmers, pastoralists and Bedouin herders CBOs (from rural areas of Badia) Staff of Government forest and rangeland services 		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium/long term (USD)
		Personnel and travel		181 500	675 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture (Forest and Rangeland Directorates) and Ministries of Environment and Water and Irrigation NGOs (e.g. Mercy Corps) CBOs FAO and WFP 		Contracts		85 500	750 000
		Training		74 500	500 000
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		387 000	2 590 000
		Technical support services		54 500	120 000
		General operating expenses		50 000	150 000
		Support costs		83 300	478 500
		Total		916 300	5 263 500

Country	Jordan				
Programme name	J.7 Food nutrition for Syrian refugees in Jordan				
Objective	Contribute towards improved food nutrition and food safety knowledge and food utilisation of vulnerable Syrian refugee families living in northern Jordan.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.1, 3.6.2 and 3.7): Chronic malnutrition is deeper in rural areas of Jordan where incidence of malnutrition and stunting in agricultural communities is estimated at 25 percent, compared to 12 percent in urban areas. One key impact of the Syria crisis on host communities has been the competition for scarce resources, resulting in rising prices for housing and food, especially in the “poverty pockets” of Mafraq Governorate. Average rents have reportedly more than tripled and food prices have risen by 27 percent since 2011. The latter has a particularly negative impact on purchasing power as these communities on average spend 40 percent of their income on food items. The supply of locally produced commodities has subsequently come under stress especially for those that are produced at the level of self-sufficiency, such as chicken, sheep, goats, dairy products, eggs, olives and olive oil, in addition to a number of fruits and vegetables. The fact that meats, dairy products and eggs have the highest rate of price increase among all food items poses a real challenge for the poorest segments of the society who will not be able to afford these items, worsening their food consumption pattern and reducing nutritional diversity.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
J.7.1 Improved food nutrition and food safety for Syrian refugees in host communities (12 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced food utilization and food safety behaviour of vulnerable Syrian refugee households living in Irbid, Mafraq, Ajloun and Jarash Governorates through sustained changes and improvements in their dietary habits.					
Outputs: Food consumption of some 5 000 refugee families improved through increased knowledge of quality and safe micronutrient and protein-rich foods, i.e. awareness campaigns, communication and training on nutrition, balanced diets, food preparation, storage and safety, the establishment of community kitchens, and distribution of appropriate nutritional and food safety equipment and materials identified during sensitization sessions.					
Beneficiaries					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syrian refugee families living in rural communities CBOs (from rural areas) 		Cost estimate			
Implementing partners		FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan’s Ministry of Health (Department of Nutrition) and Ministry of Agriculture (Food Security and Rural Development Unit) NGOs CBOs FAO 		Personnel and travel		390 000	
		Contracts		15 000	
		Training		170 000	
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		185 000	
		Technical support services		57 000	
		General operating expenses		53 000	
		Support costs		56 000	
		Total		870 000	

3. PROGRAMME AND SUBPROGRAMME PROFILES – LEBANON

Programme:	
	Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)
	Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)
	Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)
L.1 Strengthening resilience through improved livestock productivity	
	L.1.1 Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock grazing in areas along the Syria-Lebanon border (<i>20 months</i>)
	L.1.2 Increased income generation through sustainable improvements in livestock production of vulnerable smallholders affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)
L.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in disaster and crisis management	
	L.2.1 Coordination and monitoring for food security and agricultural livelihoods emergency and recovery in rural areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>24 months</i>)
	L.2.2 Strengthening disaster and crisis management capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders (<i>36 months</i>)
	L.2.3 Upgrading input supply regulatory systems for agriculture recovery and development (<i>36 months</i>)
	L.2.4 Policy and strategy development for improved domestic and export marketing of key commodities from areas affected by the Syria crisis (<i>36 months</i>)
L.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor Lebanese farming communities to the Syria crisis	
	L.3.1 Relieving the suffering of Lebanese returnees and host communities through the recovery of smallholder agricultural production (<i>12 months</i>)
	L.3.2 Rehabilitation of the dairy subsector to improve food security and nutrition of Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities (<i>12 months</i>)
	L.3.3 Strengthening the resilience of resource-poor farm families and returnees through improved crop production, agroprocessing and marketing (<i>36 months</i>)
	L.3.4 Reinforcing the resilience of Lebanese farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through value chain development (<i>jointly with ILO, 48 months</i>)
L.4 Food safety and phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Lebanon	
	L.4.1 Improved food quality control services along the Syria border in Lebanon (<i>30 months</i>)
L.5 Natural resource management in areas seriously affected by the impact of the Syria crisis	
	L.5.1 Protection and recovery of vital natural resources seriously affected by the Syria crisis in Akkar, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel and Bekaa Governorates (<i>36 months</i>)
L.6 Enhanced food nutrition for vulnerable rural families affected by the Syria crisis	
	L.6.1 Improving food security and nutritional values at community and household levels for resource-poor rural families of eastern and northern Lebanon affected by the Syria crisis (<i>18 months</i>)

Country	Lebanon					
Programme name	L.1 Strengthening resilience through improved livestock productivity					
Objective	To improve livestock production and sustain the livelihoods of the poorest and most vulnerable herders, returnees and refugees located in North Lebanon and Bekaa.					
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.8 and 3.9): There is now a high threat of TADs due to the collapse of Syria's field veterinary services and increased uncontrolled movements of unvaccinated livestock across borders. Moreover, and due to financial shortages, Lebanese smallholder farmers' in border areas, Lebanese returnees' and Syrian refugees' livestock keepers have been obliged to sell over 50 percent of their animals (with some keepers going out of business) at between 40 and 50 percent of their normal market price in order to support their families and buy feed and drugs for the remaining animals. Consequently, those smallholder households have exhausted their little reserves and have become impoverished.						
Subprogrammes						
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)		
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
L.1.1 Emergency vaccination and targeted feeding of livestock grazing in areas along the Syria-Lebanon border (20 months)			<i>The short-term intervention could be up-scaled to a medium- and/or long-term project on cessation of the crisis, but with additional capacity development of Government and private sector veterinary and livestock extension services and community-based animal health services to establish a mechanism for the national and regional control of TADs (cf. Jordan Subprogramme J.1.2 and Near East Regional Programme R.1).</i>			
Outcome: Reduced risk of TADs and improved livestock production, benefiting 27 340 livestock keeping households (i.e. refugees and host communities)						
Outputs: (i) Reduced number of TADs outbreaks due to improved surveillance and control strategies. (ii) Increased number of sheep, goats and cattle vaccinated against important TADs. (iii) Increased animal wealth/weight gain due to improved feeding interventions. (iv) Community-based animal resources development workers trained and functioning.						
L.1.2 Increased income generation through sustainable improvements in livestock production of vulnerable smallholders affected by the Syria crisis (36 months)						
Outcome: Small livestock keepers able to retain animals and recover their livelihoods by reducing the costs of production and improving productivity, while restoring grazing areas.						
Outputs: (i) Improved delivery of veterinary and animal production/pasture management extension services. (ii) Establishment of and support to animal feed distribution centres. (iii) Establishment of distribution centres and restocking of improved sheep, goats and poultry. (iv) Implement FFS to demonstrate improved animal husbandry practices.						
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis-affected Lebanese smallholder, Lebanese returnee and Syrian refugee livestock keepers from northern and eastern Lebanon Staff of Government and private sector veterinary and livestock extension services Community-based animal health workers 			FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
			Personnel and travel		484 000	664 500
Implementing partners			Contracts		143 300	37 500
			Training		297 000	106 500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Lebanon Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Livestock) and Ministry of Social Affairs Local NGOs, CBOs and cooperatives (e.g. village dairy associations) FAO ECTAD 			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		557 700	4 465 100
			Technical support services		75 000	109 500
			General operating expenses		131 000	180 000
			Support costs		272 700	556 300
			Total		3 000 000	6 119 400

Country	Lebanon				
Programme name	L.2 Capacity development of the Ministry of Agriculture and other stakeholders of the agriculture sector in disaster and crisis management				
Objective	To build national capacities for strengthening crisis prevention, preparedness and mitigation, and ensure well-coordinated food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources recovery responses.				
<p>Rationale and justification (Section 3.1): The quality and quantity of credible, timely and decision-focused food security and natural resource use information related to the Syria crisis remains extremely variable in terms of coverage and frequency. While some useful studies have been undertaken, these have generally focused on specific areas and/or population groups and are of widely varying quality. In order to address these challenges, this programme aims at establishing a food security and natural resources information system and policy development mechanism for the crisis affected rural areas of Lebanon, which would link up with an envisaged overall subregional system for Syria and all affected areas in neighbouring states, including Lebanon, as well as Iraq, Jordan and Turkey (<i>i.e. Near East Regional Programme R.2</i>).</p> <p>With the gradually increasing number of related activities by a series of related actors, there is also an urgent need for strengthened coordination within/between the parties involved in the food and agriculture recovery and stabilization effort in northern and eastern Lebanon, i.e. public entities, UN agencies, bilateral cooperation, NGOs and other partners and stakeholders.</p>					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
L.2.1 Strengthening disaster and crisis management capacity of agriculture sector stakeholders (36 months)					
Outcome: Timely and informed response capacity and decision-making on crisis prevention, preparedness and mitigation by agriculture sector stakeholders through institutional and technical strengthening for crisis anticipation and management.					
Outputs:					
(i) National food security and natural resources information and analysis system established and operational.					
(ii) National capacities in analysing, designing and monitoring food security and trade policies developed.					
(iii) National capacities in agricultural livelihood policy analysis/programming strengthened.					
(iv) Crop and livestock monitoring and forecasting information systems developed.					
(v) Early warning system developed and delivery of information for decision makers improved.					
(vi) Crisis and disaster management committee established for food security, agricultural livelihoods and natural resources.					
(vii) Prevention/preparedness improved through policy framework adjustments (including trade regulations and agreements).					
L.2.2 Coordination and monitoring for food security and agricultural livelihoods recovery in rural areas affected by the Syria crisis (24 months)					
Outcome: A well-coordinated food security and livelihoods recovery response based on continuous data monitoring and analysis, and supporting recovery and stabilization initiatives by optimizing impact and utilizing of donor funding.					
Outputs: Establish and support a Field Coordination and Monitoring Unit with two hubs at Zahle (Bekaa Valley) and El Qobaiyat (Akkar) to: (i) strengthen contacts with stakeholders in the field and create a forum for regular exchange of information; (ii) collect and centralize pertinent data and information; (iii) facilitate the implementation and updating of a comprehensive Syria crisis impact study; (iv) provide technical support to municipalities and humanitarian/development partners; (v) verify ongoing and planned interventions and formulate project proposals; and (vi) streamline and coordinate all food and agriculture emergency and recovery initiatives/projects.					
					<i>Continued</i>

<i>L.2 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		L.2.3 Upgrading input supply regulatory systems for agriculture recovery and development (36 months)			
		Outcome: Improved management of agriculture input supply chains for plant and animal production through the development of a sustainable, efficient and reliable control and inspection system.			
		Outputs: (i) Improved legal, regulatory, institutional and operational systems for agricultural inputs (i.e. seeds, pesticides, veterinary drugs, animal feed, etc.) at the level of the Ministry of Agriculture and related services. (ii) Enhanced capacities of Ministry of Agriculture inspection services and related stakeholders and upgraded inspection systems. (iii) Institutional and physical upgrading of servicing laboratories (towards international accreditation) and standardization of reliable testing methodologies.			
		L.2.4 Policy and strategy development for improved domestic and export marketing of key commodities from areas affected by the Syria crisis (36 months)			
		Outcome: Improved marketing of Lebanese agricultural products through the identification of competitive edges and market niches of selected commodities in the international scene, as well as the enhancement of local market structures.			
		Outputs: (i) Development of effective marketing and trade policies for agricultural commodities. (ii) Enhanced domestic market channels and improved confidence in Lebanese products through strengthened internal marketing mechanisms, enhanced quality of local products and goods, and strengthened extension services and market orientation. (iii) Development of an agriculture export marketing strategy through the establishment of an agricultural export promotion organization, strengthening of market intelligence systems, expansion of export-related business and enhancement of product outreach.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff of the Government of Lebanon's Ministry of Agriculture and Council for Development and Reconstruction. Staff of specialized NGOs, commodity boards and trade organizations 		FAO cost categories		Short/medium term (USD)	
		Personnel and travel		3 316 200	
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministries of Agriculture, of Social Affairs, of Economy and Trade, of Environment, and of Energy and Water, and of Central Administration of Statistics of the Government of Lebanon FAO GIEWS FAO/WFP global Food Security Cluster Specialized NGOs and private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce) 		Contracts		1 960 000	
		Training		493 500	
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement		1 605 800	
		Technical support services		504 500	
		General operating expenses		620 000	
		Support costs		1 024 900	
		Total			

Country	Lebanon				
Programme name	L.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor Lebanese farming communities to the Syria crisis				
Objective	To restore agricultural livelihoods and improve the resilience of smallholder and poor Lebanese farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through enhanced crop and livestock production, post-harvest management and produce marketing.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.2 and 3.8): Highly vulnerable Lebanese returnees are now hosted in rural villages of districts bordering Syria, most of which represent the poorest population pockets of the country (e.g. Akkar, Baalbek and Hermel). Furthermore, farmlands close to the borders are at times not accessible during hostilities. As a result, farms are either directly damaged by shelling or indirectly by crop failure due to temporary abandonment. In desperate cases, orchards are cut and sold for fuel wood. In addition to the serious constraints in terms of production, improper handling of fresh fruits and vegetables after harvest are resulting in quality deterioration and related economic loss. Due also to the grave repercussions of the Syria crisis, post-harvest losses of fresh fruit, vegetable, meat and dairy produce are currently estimated to have increased by between 20 and 50 percent. The main problems prevailing include: harvesting at improper maturity; rough handling; use of unsuitable containers; harvesting during the hot hours of the day; the absence of harvesting tools; improper stacking and overfilling of containers; poor maintenance or absence of cold storage facilities; expensive or/and unavailability of transportation; and an absence of food safety and sanitary measures. Post-harvest handling of fruit and vegetables is a labour intensive process. However, most of the Lebanese returnees and Syrian refugees have limited appreciation for post-harvest handling and marketing, and the need to maintain the quality of products. Bordering and remote areas suffer particularly from limited shelf-life of local fresh products and the higher cost of transportation to gross markets, where Syrian products are intermittently dumped, leading to depressed fruit and vegetable prices. Moreover, most farmers are distressed and are unequally treated by service providers (transporters and inputs providers) and traders (middlemen and gross market traders). Consequently, crop profitability has dropped mostly by over 50 percent due to the increase in cost of production and fall of commodity market prices. In a desperate measure to sustain their income and reduce their costs of production, farmers tend to minimize investments and expenses related to agriculture practices, which has a negative impact on crop productivity and quality.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
L.3.1 Relieving the suffering of Lebanese returnees and host communities through the recovery of smallholder agricultural production (12 months)					
Outcome: Reduced food and nutrition insecurity and enhanced income generation of 6 000 impoverished landless and marginal farming families from the Syrian border areas of Lebanon through the restoration of crop production and food processing.					
Outputs: (i) Beneficiary selection committees established and functioning for the identification of impoverished and vulnerable farming households. (ii) Procurement and distribution of agricultural inputs, food handling, processing and storage equipment/materials and “cash-for-work” transfers to poor/destitute farming families affected by the current crisis. (iii) Improved quality and hygiene of food handling and processing, and improved household food nutrition.					
		<i>Continued</i>			

<i>L.3 Subprogrammes continued</i>				
L.3.4 Reinforcing the resilience of Lebanese farming communities affected by the Syria crisis through value chain development (48 months)				
Outcome: The resilience of 10 000 poor and small-scale farming families affected by the Syria crisis is improved through strengthening weak linkages of value chains and adding value to agricultural products by enhancing post-harvest management.				
Outputs: (i) The quality of potatoes is enhanced through improved production materials and practices to meet market demands. (ii) Greenhouse vegetables are improved in view of quality, product safety and system sustainability. (iii) Added value for selected products (including potatoes and vegetables) is enhanced through improved community-based post-harvesting processing, packaging, storage, transportation and marketing practices and market intelligence services. (iv) The productivity, biosafety and disease serosurveillance and control for small-scale poultry farms are improved. (v) Subprogramme interventions supported by FFS and FBS to adapt and promote GAP, leading to the establishment/strengthening of farmers' associations and cooperatives.				
Beneficiaries				
Cost estimate				
FAO cost categories				
Short term (USD)				
Medium term (USD)				
Long term (USD)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lebanese returnees and marginal and small-scale Lebanese farming families hosting returnees and Syrian refugees (as well as members of farmers' groups, associations and cooperatives) Government staff, NGO and private agricultural service providers (e.g. extension workers, input suppliers, buyers and local food and agroprocessors) 	Personnel and travel	850 000	628 500	3 010 000
	Contracts	150 000	200 000	860 000
	Training	437 300	202 500	570 000
	Expendable and non-expendable procurement	4 319 500	2 334 000	5,220,000
	Technical support services	150 000	90 000	280,000
	General operating expenses	275 000	214 500	240,000
	Support costs	618 200	367 000	1,438,000
	Total	6 800 000	4 036 500	12,500,000
	Implementing partners			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Lebanon's Ministry of Agriculture (extension services) Local NGOs CBOs and farmers' groups, associations and cooperatives Private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) 			

Country	Lebanon					
Programme name	L.4 Food safety and phytosanitary control in Syrian border areas of Lebanon					
Objective	Strengthening border food control measures to assure adequate consumer protection and to support agricultural exports by ensuring compliance with internationally recognized standards and procedures					
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.7 and 3.10): Syrian phytosanitary and food safety control services have collapsed over the past two years. There has been an increasing informal trade of food and agricultural commodities across borders with Syria in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon following the crisis in Syria. There have also been significant changes in agricultural trading routes throughout the region. All of these developments have increased the risks of trading food at substandard quality and the threat of the plant transboundary diseases and pests accompanying the moving commodities, given the weak food safety and phytosanitary inspection systems in Lebanon, particularly at existing border crossings and especially so at the new border crossings.						
Subprogrammes						
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term agricultural recovery (1 to 3 years)			Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
		L.4.1 Improved food quality control services along the Syria border in Lebanon (30 months)				
		Outcome: The import/export food inspection and certification systems strengthened in Lebanon to manage the threat of transboundary crop diseases and pests and contaminated and unsafe foodstuffs.				
		Outputs: (i) Handling of food import control in countries is based on food risk analysis. (ii) Risk-based food control is reinforced. (iii) Border food inspectors trained on the risk-based control systems. (iv) Phytosanitary capacity and infrastructure for inspection and control of transboundary crop diseases and pests are strengthened. (v) Phytosanitary capacity for post-entry regulation measures and treatments improved. (vi) Laboratory facilities strengthened and staff associated with border food control and phytosanitary control trained. (vii) Leaders of farmers' associations and cooperatives trained in GMP and GHP.				
Beneficiaries				Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumers of food products in Lebanon Small-scale agricultural producers/members of farmers' associations and cooperatives Staff of Government and private sector border food inspectorates and food laboratories 				FAO cost categories		Short/medium (USD)
				Personnel and travel		695 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Jordan's Ministries of Agriculture, of Economy and Trade, and of Industry, as well as the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Private sector organizations and food-based companies FAO and WHO 				Contracts		350 000
				Training		301 000
				Expendable and non-expendable procurement		942 800
				Technical support services		40 000
				General operating expenses		140 000
				Support costs		246 900
				Total		2 715 700

Country	Lebanon				
Programme name	L.5 Natural resource management in areas seriously affected by the impact of the Syria crisis				
Objective	To protect and recover natural resources (i.e. rangelands, bushlands, forests and water sources) from severe depletion and degradation caused by the influx of Syrian refugees and their livestock herds.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.11): Due to the accelerating demand for fuel, woodlands and forests (by illegal cutting) by increasingly resource-poor Syrian refugees and the Lebanese host communities, natural resources are being overexploited – non-wood forest products are also exploited for daily subsistence by both Lebanese communities and refugees. In addition, the arrival of additional livestock from Syria is gradually causing overgrazing and degradation of vegetation cover on vulnerable rangelands. To meet the increasing demand of Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees, water pumping and depletion of aquifers is approaching critical levels for both domestic and agricultural use. The influx of the refugees and their search for water points is resulting in a dramatic increase of solid waste along the rivers and coastline, causing higher pollution levels in these ecosystems. The deterioration of water quality is affecting not only potable water, but also water used for irrigation. Furthermore, conflicts over the use of natural resources, between host communities and refugees, has become more and more severe, putting peace and security at risk.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
		L.5.1 Protection and recovery of vital natural resources seriously affected by the Syria crisis in Akkar, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel and Bekaa Governorates (36 months)			
		Outcome: Regenerated and protected forests and rangelands, and sustainable management of wood and non-wood forest products, bush-lands and pastures and irrigation water supplies, directly benefiting some 6 000 rural households (i.e. resource-poor landless and marginal farmers and Lebanese returnees) and indirectly benefiting some 600 Syrian refugees.			
		Outputs: (i) Establishment of small and privately owned tree nurseries producing medicinal, edible and forest species for distribution to reforestation areas, creating income generating enterprises for local rural communities. (ii) Reforestation and protection of afforested areas through “cash-for-work”, targeting resource-poor forest users. (iii) Establishment of pilot initiatives on communal and state land for sustainable forest and rangeland management, enabling sustainable use of wood and fodder resources through elaborated community management plans. (iv) Establishment of pilot household and community-based schemes for the demonstration of water resources management, water quality improvement and efficient water use for agriculture purposes.			
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poorest rural communities in crisis affected areas and Lebanese returnees, as well as Syrian refugees (indirectly through “cash-for-work” interventions) Extension staff of the Ministry of Agriculture’s Directorate of Rural Development and Natural Resources 			FAO cost categories		Short/medium term (USD)
			Personnel and travel		862 800
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Lebanon’s Ministries of Agriculture (Directorate of Rural Development and Natural Resources) and of Environment Local NGOs CBOs FAO (in synergy with related ADELNORD, GIZ, IFAD Hilly Areas Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (HASAD), UNDP and USAID-supported initiatives) 			Contracts		1 828 800
			Training		55 500
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		639 600
			Technical support services		100 500
			General operating expenses		223 500
			Support costs		371 100
			Total		4 081 800

Country	Lebanon				
Programme name	L.6 Enhanced food nutrition for vulnerable rural families affected by the Syria crisis				
Objective	Reduce food insecurity and improve nutritional food value for the most vulnerable rural communities affected by the impact of the Syria crisis.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.2 and 3.6.3): The massive influx of Syrian refugees into Lebanon has put tremendous pressure on the coping capacity of refugees and their Lebanese hosts. Competition over scarce resources, food availability and employment is generating increasing levels of tension and despair. The higher demand and increasing prices of food commodities resulted in reduced access of the poorest categories of rural populations to adequate nutrition. As a result, malnutrition is mounting as these households now rely almost solely on carbohydrates for their diets (UNICEF and WFP are particularly concerned about the nutrition status of refugee children with limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables). The project aims at immediately increasing local production and supply of safe and nutritious food in areas where food deficit prevails as a result of high concentration of refugees and limited production capacity. This may include areas surrounding or adjacent to refugee hosting families, transit centres, camps or areas with a high concentration of refugees and limited food production capacity.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
L.6.1 Improving food security and nutritional value at community and household levels for resource-poor rural families of eastern and northern Lebanon affected by the Syria crisis (18 months)					
Outcome: Significant reduction in food insecurity and improvement of nutrition and livelihood conditions for 3 750 impoverished landless families of vulnerable rural communities, as well as improved social cohesion among the host communities, Lebanese returnees and Syrian refugees in Akkar, North Lebanon, Baalbeck-Hermel and Bekaa Governorates.					
Outputs: (i) Establishment of school/hospital/orphanage and home gardens as a means to promote healthy and diversified food intake among vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian school children and their families in areas with high risks of malnutrition. (ii) Establishment of community kitchens and backyard and urban gardens, allowing beneficiaries to produce together and cater for higher quality and nutritious food commodities. (iii) Increased production capacity of Lebanese landless farmers and returnees for local horticultural production through provision of appropriate agricultural inputs and cash transfers. (iv) Improved nutrition among rural communities with more equilibrated/diversified meals through the production of vegetables and provision of protein sources and related training activities. (v) Knowledge and skills of teachers/master trainers in food nutrition/diversified diets enhanced.					
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landless families of the most vulnerable rural host communities (in particular women and children) Extension staff and teachers of the Ministries of Agriculture, of Education and of Health 			FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)
Implementing partners			Personnel and travel		636 900
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Lebanon's Ministries of Agriculture, of Education, of Health and of Social Affairs Local humanitarian NGOs CBOs, local clinics, hospitals, orphanages, religious institutions, schools, etc. FAO, UNICEF and WFP 			Contracts		177 000
			Training		52 500
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		409 200
			Technical support services		55 500
			General operating expenses		115 500
			Support costs		144 700
			Total		1 591 300

PROGRAMME AND SUBPROGRAMME PROFILES – IRAQ

Programme:		
	Short term (<i>humanitarian relief</i>)	
	Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)	
	Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)	
I.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services		
	I.1.1 Emergency control of TADs in Ninawa Governorate (<i>18 months</i>)	
	I.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses in northern Iraq (<i>30 months</i>)	
I.2 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees in northern Iraq		
	I.2.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees (<i>12 months</i>)	
	I.2.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Kurdistan region (<i>42 months</i>)	
	I.2.3 Smallholder value chain development in the Kurdistan region (<i>36 months</i>)	

Country	Iraq						
Programme name	I.1 Strengthening the national capacity for the control of TADs and improved animal health services						
Objective	Effective control of TADs in Iraq (particularly in Ninawa Governorate).						
Rationale and justification (Section 3.10): High threat of TADs due to the collapse of Syria's field veterinary services and increased uncontrolled movements of unvaccinated livestock across borders. PPR and FMD are the most feared TADs in Ninawa Governorate. Among others, outbreaks of LSD in cattle and zoonotic cutaneous leishmaniasis in refugees living in camps have been reported. Although major efforts have been made by the Government of Iraq to develop specific disease control strategies, too little attention has been given to improve animal health delivery at the community level in remote areas. Disease control is hampered by low incomes, inaccessibility of veterinary services, and lack of skills in animal disease control, knowledge and interest in disease surveillance and reporting in remote areas, and the absence of trained auxiliaries. Iraq's field veterinary services are constrained by the lack of adequate human and logistic resources. FAO proposes an additional component to its ongoing livestock production project to "develop the performance of small ruminants (sheep and goats) and improve the level of income for small breeders" in Ninawa Governorate.							
Subprogrammes							
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)			Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)		
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>		
I.1.1 Emergency control of TADs in Ninawa Governorate (18 months)							
Outcome: Significant reduction in the threat of outbreaks of TADs and zoonoses.							
Outputs: (i) Reduced number of TADs outbreaks due to improved surveillance and control by Iraqi veterinary services, including vaccination campaigns for 365 000 animals. (ii) Increased livestock productivity of 18 250 Bedouin herders and communities hosting Syrian refugees due to improved animal husbandry practices.							
I.1.2 National control of TADs and zoonoses in northern Iraq (30 months)							
Outcome: Livelihoods of 26 500 Bedouin herders and livestock farmers restored through increased animal production, food nutrition and household income.							
Outputs: (i) Improved national TADs surveillance, diagnosis, reporting, early warning and containment/quarantine systems (including 730 000 animals vaccinated annually). (ii) Improved animal health, including capacity development of Government and private sector veterinary and livestock extension services, the establishment of community animal health workers' networks and adoption of best practices.							
Beneficiaries				Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bedouin herders and livestock farmers of northern Iraq Staff of Government and private sector veterinary and livestock extension services 				FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
				Personnel and travel		310 000	962 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Iraq's Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Livestock) Ninawa Provincial Bureau of Agriculture CBOs FAOECTAD 				Contracts		110 000	520 000
				Training		120 000	546 000
				Expendable and non-expendable procurement		550 000	2 905 000
				Technical support services		70 000	156 000
				General operating expenses		80 000	234 000
				Support costs		125 000	533 000
				Total	1365 000	5 856 000	

Country	Iraq					
Programme name	I.2 Improved rural income generation and employment through integrated homestead farming, agroprocessing and marketing in communities hosting Syrian refugees in northern Iraq					
Objective	To enhance income generating opportunities and food utilization capacities of landless and marginal farming families from vulnerable host communities.					
Rationale and justification (Section 3.3.2 and 3.8): The large number of refugees in the Kurdish region has created competition for labour, as well as increased pressure on local food production. The agriculture sector in the Kurdish region has been declining in recent times and has been identified by both the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government as an important area for rehabilitation and development. While 70 percent of Kurdistan's population lives in urban areas, food insecurity and poverty are disproportionately concentrated in the rural areas, where two-thirds of the food-insecure are located. The effects on the influx of large numbers of refugees are being felt the most by those who are already vulnerable to food insecurity and poverty. In addition, many Syrian refugees have agricultural backgrounds in various types of crop-based farming. FAO would build on the recently completed projects entitled, "Emergency support to food insecure rural households through establishing home gardens in Iraq" and "Community livelihoods and micro-industry support in rural and urban areas of northern Iraq".						
Subprogrammes						
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)		
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
I.2.1 Livelihood resilience for vulnerable farm families hosting Syrian refugees (12 months)						
Outcome: Enhanced income generating and food utilization capacities for 6 500 vulnerable smallholder farming families of Anbar, Ninawa, Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah Governorates.						
Outputs: (i) Increased integrated homestead farming production through the adoption of new and improved poultry, horticultural and food processing technologies and practices. (ii) Improved household food nutrition security through healthier diets and better food preparation and storage. (iii) Increased capacity of Government and NGO service providers and lead men and women farmers to promote integrated homestead farming and food processing approaches, and improve food nutrition and food safety.						
I.2.2 Enhanced income generation of rural communities hosting Syrian refugees in Kurdistan region (42 months)						
Outcome: To increase the income generating opportunities and food utilization capacities of 4 500 families of landless and marginal farming families and agricultural wage earners in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah Governorates.						
Outputs: (i) Increased domestic food production by 3 500 vulnerable rural households through the adoption of new and improved crop production technologies and practices, including integrated homestead farming, integrated pest management, on-farm water management and conservation agriculture (through participation in FFS). (ii) Increased income generating opportunities for 1 000 vulnerable rural households (particularly women) through the expansion of proven agricultural micro-industries (through participation in FBS). (iii) Enhanced capacity of Government and private agricultural service providers and lead men and women farmers to promote post-harvest management and agroprocessing techniques, and improve food nutrition and food safety through FFS and FBS programmes.						
		<i>Continued</i>				

<i>I.2 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
			I.2.3 Smallholder value chain development in Kurdistan region (36 months)		
			<p>Outcome: Small local agribusiness enterprises established and market linkages strengthened for target poor rural communities to increase sales of their agricultural products, and improve competitiveness and sustainability of their value chains, particularly in those governorates hosting Syrian refugees (e.g. Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah).</p>		
			<p>Outputs:</p> <p>(i) Small local agribusiness enterprises established and/or strengthened to enhance sustainable and inclusive agricultural input supply and produce marketing chains.</p> <p>(ii) Farmers' associations able to process and market food commodities on a sustainable basis through improved post-harvest management technologies and practices, agricultural micro-industry development and market information systems.</p> <p>(iii) Public-private partnerships established and/or strengthened to improve input supply and marketing linkages of food-based value chains.</p>		
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landless and marginal farming families hosting Syrian refugees Staff of Government, NGO and private agricultural service providers (e.g. extension workers, input suppliers and buyers) 		FAO cost categories			
			Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)	Long term (USD)
Implementing partners		Personnel and travel	951 400	1 007 000	2 214 600
		Contracts	453 900	540 000	961 300
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah Directorates of Agriculture NGOs CBOs and farmers' associations Private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) 		Training	410 200	504 000	1 012 900
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement	2 181 000	2 806 000	930 900
		Technical support services	110 000	55 000	121 700
		General operating expenses	261 800	197 000	298 100
		Support costs	432 000	511 000	554 500
		Total	4 800 000	5 620 000	6 094 000

5. PROGRAMME PROFILES – EGYPT

Programme:			
		Short term (<i>humanitarian relief and policy development</i>)	
		Medium term (<i>agricultural livelihoods recovery</i>)	
		Long term (<i>agricultural and rural development</i>)	
E.1 Enhance food security information, knowledge sharing and agriculture resilience programming			
		E.1.1 National agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (<i>36 months</i>)	
E.2 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt			
		E.2.1 Urban farming in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)	
		E.2.2 Enhanced food nutrition and income generation in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>12 months</i>)	
		E.2.3 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt (<i>36 months</i>)	
		E.2.4 Support to value chain development for small-scale processors from peri-urban areas of Egypt (<i>48 months</i>)	

Country	Egypt				
Programme name	E.1 Enhance food security information, knowledge sharing and agriculture resilience programming				
Objective	To promote and support efficient and effective agricultural livelihood and food security emergency and recovery programming in Egypt in response to regional crises and climate change.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.1): Egypt suffers from a lack of up-to-date information on the status of livelihoods, food and nutrition security and vulnerability of rural populations in the country. There is also a lack of coordination mechanisms for exchanging information and targeting and planning food and agricultural interventions in both the country and the Near East and North Africa regions in response to past and present regional crises (e.g. Libya, Syria and the Sudan). The intervention is based on lessons learned and successes of FAO's recent national post-disaster agricultural livelihood assessments (e.g. Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines), and national and regional IPC system, which has been adopted or tested by many countries of sub-Saharan Africa and South and South-east Asia, with sustained linkages to FAO GIEWS, and FAO and WFP's global Food Security Cluster.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
				<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
		E.1.1 National agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (36 months)			
		Outcome: Efficient and effective agricultural livelihood, food and nutrition security and natural resources data collection and analysis, knowledge management and development programming for vulnerable rural communities in Egypt.			
		Outputs: (i) Greater understanding of livelihood and food accessibility and utilization conditions and natural resources of vulnerable rural communities by stakeholders of Egypt's agriculture sector through the design and establishment of harmonized agricultural livelihood, food and nutrition security and natural resource assessment methodologies to gather data on the status of vulnerable communities, impact of relief and recovery interventions and any uncovered needs. (ii) Enhanced capacity of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MoALR) and its development partners in conducting livelihood assessments and formulating agricultural development programmes for impoverished rural areas through the development of assessment and data analysis tools and reporting mechanisms, and training of humanitarian and development actors from MoALR and NGOs on assessment methodologies and coordination mechanisms. (iii) National coordination mechanisms developed and maintained for sharing information on agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources.			
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff of MoALR's food security units and statistics and agricultural planning departments Staff of specialized NGOs 			FAO cost categories		Medium term (USD)
			Personnel and travel		1 833 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoALR (food security units and planning departments) and Government Department of Statistics Specialized NGOs FAO and WFP Country Offices FAO GIEWS FAO/WFP's global Food Security Cluster 			Contracts		934 000
			Training		138 500
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		90 000
			Technical support services		42 000
			General operating expenses		144 000
			Support costs		318 500
			Total		3 500 000

Country	Egypt				
Programme name	E.2 Reinforcing the resilience of resource-poor communities hosting Syrian refugees in Egypt				
Objective	To improve the resilience of poor urban and peri-urban Egyptian communities hosting Syrian refugees through enhanced urban farming production, post-harvest management and produce marketing.				
Rationale and justification (Sections 3.3.2 and 3.8): The civil war in Syria has generated a large number of so-called “urban-refugees” scattered through Egypt primarily in Cairo, Damietta, Alexandria and Port-Said. Urban poverty is already high in Egypt and tends to be fuelled by people migrating towards the cities in an attempt to escape the deprivations associated with rural livelihoods. While urban food security and its related problems should have already been placed high on the agenda of humanitarian and development actors, the influx of refugees is further exacerbating the critical importance of food nutrition and income-generating opportunities for the poorest urban dwellers, particularly those living in households headed by women. Syrians have brought a tradition of milk processing, sweet manufacturing, baking, etc., to Egypt, and such skills need to be developed and transferred to the poorest of urban dwellers, particularly those living in households headed by women. For example, entrepreneurial Syrians have already established small milk-processing ventures in the Cairo suburb of 6 th of October, as well as a number of other food processing activities. Refugees are also competing for employment opportunities and income-generating activities are scarce. Some refugees are therefore opening small businesses in the area of food services and processing, including restaurants and small-scale dairy processing. The scope of the proposed intervention builds on successful experience in Egypt and neighbouring countries (in particular the Gaza Strip and the West Bank), as well as on the global “Food for the Cities” network of experts led by FAO and the ongoing Government of Italy-funded and FAO-implemented project, “Improving household food and nutrition security in Egypt by targeting women and youth”.					
Subprogrammes					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
E.2.1 Urban farming in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (12 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced household food availability and diet diversity, and reduced household food expenditure for host communities and refugees in urban and peri-urban settings by growing fresh and healthy food in small spaces, such as patios, terraces, rooftop and backyards, benefiting some 5 000 poor families.					
Outputs: (i) A minimum of 1 000 small urban farming production units established and operational through the provision of inputs (e.g. gardening equipment, tools and materials, aquaponics and small animal units) and training. (ii) Some 4 000 families are accessing free fresh and healthy food and processing and proper storage (to retain nutritional values) on a sustainable basis. (iii) Efficient and sustainable use of natural resources (especially limited urban water supplies). (iv) Promotion of gender equality.					
		<i>Continued</i>			

<i>E.1 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
E.2.2 Enhanced food nutrition and income generation in host communities of Syrian refugees in Egypt (12 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced nutritional status and income generating capacity of some 12 000 vulnerable Syrian refugees and affected families of poor peri-urban communities hosting Syrian refugees.					
Outputs: (i) Improved household access to diversified food intake and supplementary income by some 2 000 poor Egyptian families and Syrian refugees (particularly women) through the promotion of homestead and community-based food processing and marketing. (ii) Improved quality and safety of food available on local markets for Syrian refugee families and poor Egyptian communities hosting these refugees, as well as the general population. (iii) Food nutrition and health behaviour improved among some 10 000 Syrian refugee families and poor Egyptian communities living in the same communities as refugees. (iv) Capacities built and integrated, and participatory approaches for improving food and nutrition security among Syrian refugee community centres institutionalized by stakeholders. (v) Promotion of gender equality.					
E.2.3 Market-oriented and sustainable high-value integrated urban agricultural development (36 months)					
Outcome: Enhanced income generation and employment creation capacity and nutritional status of vulnerable Egyptian families from poor urban and peri-urban communities hosting Syrian refugees.					
Outputs: (i) Small urban farming production units established and operational through the provision of inputs (e.g. gardening equipment, tools and materials, aquaponics, small animal units and food processing equipment and materials) and training. (ii) The quality of fruit, vegetables, fish, rabbit meat, etc. produced in small spaces, such as patios, terraces, rooftops and backyards are improved in view of quality, product safety and system sustainability. (iii) Added value for selected products (including dairy and confectionary) is enhanced through improved community-based post-harvesting processing, packaging, storage, transportation and marketing practices, and market intelligence services. (v) Subprogramme interventions supported by FFS and FBS to adapt and promote GAP, GMP and GHP, leading to the establishment/strengthening of urban farmers' associations and cooperatives.		<i>Continued</i>			

<i>E.1 Subprogrammes continued</i>					
Short term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
January-June 2014	July-December 2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
		E.2.4 Support to value chain development for small-scale processors from peri-urban areas of Egypt (48 months)			
		Outcome: Small local agribusiness enterprises established and market linkages strengthened for target poor communities to increase sales of their agricultural products and improve competitiveness and sustainability of their value chains in peri-urban areas hosting Syrian refugees.			
		Outputs: (i) Small local agribusiness enterprises established and/or strengthened to enhance sustainable and inclusive agricultural input supply and produce marketing chains. (ii) CBOs and small private enterprises able to process and market food commodities on a sustainable basis through improved post-harvest management technologies and practices, and market information systems. (iii) Public-private partnerships established and/or strengthened to improve input supply and marketing linkages of food-based value chains.			
Beneficiaries		Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor Egyptian urban dwellers living in community centres hosting Syrian refugees; and impoverished Syrian refugee families Staff of Government, NGO and private agricultural service providers (e.g. extension workers, input suppliers, buyers and local food and agroprocessors) 		FAO cost categories	Short term (USD)	Short term (USD)	Medium term (USD)
		Personnel and travel	200 000	975 000	3 785 600
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Egypt's MoALR (extension services) Specialist local NGOs, e.g. the Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance CBOs, e.g. community centres Private sector organizations (e.g. chambers of commerce and commodity boards) FAO's "Food for the Cities" Network 		Contracts	120 000	2 629 500	1 643 200
		Training	120 000	122 000	1 726 400
		Expendable and non-expendable procurement	1 040 000	1 907 400	1 672 700
		Technical support services	50 000	110 000	208 000
		General operating expenses	110 000	121 200	509 600
		Support costs	164 000	586 500	954 500
		Total	1 804 000	6 451 600	10 500 000

6. PROGRAMME PROFILES – TURKEY

Programme:

T.1 (Short term) Food nutrition and income generation for Syrian refugees through support to “micro-gardening” initiatives in selected refugee camps (*12 months*)

T.2 (Short term) Recovery of smallholder agricultural production and marketing in the impoverished Syria border areas of Turkey (*2 x 12 months, i.e. annual subsidies for the duration of the crisis*)

Country	Turkey				
Project name	T.1 Food nutrition and income generation for Syrian refugees through support to “micro-gardening” initiatives in selected refugee camps (12 months)				
Objective	Contribute to the resilience of vulnerable Syrian families living in the refugee camps of southern Turkey by improving their awareness on healthy and diversified family diets, and by providing know-how for horticulture production with limited land and water, which will be crucial at the time of returning to Syria.				
Rationale and Justification (Sections 3.3.1, 3.6.3 and 3.8): The Government of Turkey has established camps for Syrian refugees that provide medical and educational services and three meals per day, and continues to construct new ones. In the earlier camps there was insufficient space for refugees to operate kitchen gardens to grow vegetables and rear small livestock, such as chickens and rabbits. However, there is evidence from some camps that refugees are growing vegetables and herbs in small containers around or hanging from their tents and containerized housing units. However, more recent Syrian refugee camps have included areas designated for refugees to grow fruits, vegetables, herbs, etc. – more for reasons of occupational therapy than the provision of added nutrients and vitamins to diets and small amounts of income generated from the supplementary sale of produce. The massive influx of Syrian refugees into Turkey has put tremendous pressure on the coping capacity of refugees. Competition over scarce resources, food availability and employment is generating increasing levels of tension and despair. The higher demand and increasing prices of food commodities in Syria has resulted in lower access of the poorest categories of affected populations to adequate nutrition. As a result, malnutrition is mounting, as these refugee families rely currently almost only on carbohydrates for their diets. UNICEF and WFP are particularly concerned about the nutrition status of refugee children, with limited access to fresh fruit and vegetables.					
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)			Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>
Outcome: Enhanced food utilization and income generating capacities for some 4 000 vulnerable Syrian refugee families through support to micro-gardening initiatives in selected refugee camps of Turkey.					
Outputs: (i) Rapid needs assessments completed and beneficiaries identified (with a focus on women and youth). (ii) Vulnerable refugee families have access to free, fresh and healthy mineral- and vitamin-rich food, and generate supplementary incomes through the establishment of micro-gardens and production, consumption and sale of fruits, vegetables, herbs and spices by providing appropriate seeds and planting materials, agricultural inputs, hand tools, etc., as well as training on horticulture and GAP. (iii) Establishment of “micro-garden” demonstration and training centres within refugee camps and preparation of training modules on horticultural production, micro-garden systems and GAP. (iv) Capacities built and integrated, and participatory approaches for improving food and nutrition security in confined spaces (and among Syrian refugees) institutionalized by stakeholders and implementing partners, including training of master trainers, extension workers, social mobilizers, etc.					
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vulnerable Syrian refugee families with experience in homestead gardening (with a minimum of 50 percent women-headed households) Staff of Government and NGO field extension services (e.g. subject matter specialists, master trainers, extension workers, social mobilizers, etc.) 			FAO cost categories		Short term (USD)
			Personnel and travel		140 000
Implementing partners			Contracts		80 000
			Training		160 000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Turkey’s Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (Department for Training, Extension and Publication) and AFAD Turkish Red Crescent and local NGOs FAO, UNICEF and WFP 			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		420 000
			Technical support services		60 000
			General operating expenses		60 000
			Support costs		92 000
			Total		1 012 000

Country	Turkey					
Project name	T.2 Recovery of smallholder agricultural production and marketing in the impoverished Syria border areas of Turkey (two x 12 months)					
Objective	To restore income-generating capacities of poor and vulnerable smallholder Turkish farming families from communities hosting refugees in the border areas with Syria through the recovery of their agricultural livelihoods.					
Rationale and justification (Section 3.8): Smallholder families farming within 5 km of the Syria border in Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis and Saniurfa Provinces have lost more than half of their annual household income because of the Syria crisis through, viz: (i) more than 40 percent falls in farm-gate prices for grapes, olives and pistachio nuts because Syrian refugees are returning to their farms, harvesting their crops and then returning to Turkey to sell their produce to processors/wholesalers at much reduced prices; (ii) shortages of animal fodder and high animal feed prices and vaccination costs; (iii) insecurity close to the border and looting/damage to irrigation equipment/structures and loss of fruit trees (through a lack of irrigation); (iv) loss of local cross-border trading opportunities with neighbouring communities; and (v) high agricultural input and fuel prices, limited access to agricultural credit and poor dairy animal hygiene (the latter is not as a consequence of the Syria crisis, but a compounding issue). The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MoFAL) of the Government of Turkey has subsequently requested FAO to mobilize resources and provide technical and financial assistance to support a project to provide 50 percent grant assistance for key agricultural inputs and capacity building to those smallholder farming families affected by the Syria crisis. It is proposed that the project be funded or co-funded by the ongoing FAO-implemented FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme, following the modalities of the MoFAL-supported “Rural Development Support Programme” and “South-Eastern Anatolia Project Action Plan”.						
Short-term humanitarian relief (1 to 12 months)			Medium-term livelihood recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>		<i>July-December 2014</i>		<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	
Outcome: Restoration of agricultural livelihoods of 10 000 vulnerable smallholder farming families hosting Syrian refugees in Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis and Saniurfa Provinces through the provision of short-term subsidies for key agricultural inputs and capacity building in GAP.						
Outputs: (i) Rapid needs assessments completed and beneficiaries identified from rural communities hosting Syrian refugees. (ii) Design of (<i>seasonal/annual</i>) cash transfer mechanisms (e.g. “vouchers”) to support subsidized agricultural input packages, such as: animal fodder and vaccines; wheat and lentil seeds; fertilizer; irrigation equipment and fuel; organic farming equipment and materials; tractor spare parts and fuel; etc. (iii) Improved farm incomes through reduced agricultural input costs and increases in crop and livestock production – supported by cash grants. (iv) Enhanced household income generation for affected farming families through increased opportunities in food processing, packaging, storage and marketing, supported by packages procured through cash grants. (v) Capacities of stakeholders built to transfer new and improved production and post-harvest management technologies and practices to administer cash transfer schemes, and to financially and environmentally sustain the project’s interventions, including the training of 120 staff of public and private service providers and lead men and women farmers, and the implementation of FFS.						
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor and vulnerable smallholder farming families living in rural communities hosting Syrian refugees and have lost at least half of their annual farm income as a result of the Syria crisis Staff of Government and NGO field extension services (e.g. subject matter specialists, master trainers, extension workers, social mobilizers, etc.) 			FAO cost categories		Short-term (USD)	
			Personnel and travel		1 520 000	
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Turkey’s Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (Department for Training, Extension and Publication) Local NGOs, CBOs, cooperatives and farmers’ associations FAO 			Contracts		360 000	
			Training		800 000	
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		7 400 000	
			Technical support services		350 000	
			General operating expenses		479 000	
			Support costs		1 091 000	
			Total		12 000 000	

7. PROGRAMME PROFILES – REGIONAL

Programme:
R.1 (Long-term) Strengthening regional capacity for the control of TADs in the Near East region (<i>42 months</i>)
R.2 (Long-term) Subregional agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (<i>48 months</i>)

Countries	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and other countries in the Near East region					
Programme name	R.1 Strengthening regional capacity for the control of TADs in the Near East region (42 months)					
Objective	Effective control of TADs in Syria and along the Syria border areas of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, and the strengthening of national capacities and regional coordination for better management of animal health systems.					
Rationale and justification (Section 3.9): Syrian veterinary services and animal vaccination programmes have virtually collapsed or at a minimal coverage level of all times since June 2012. The “number one” threat to the agriculture sector of the region is the spread of TADs from Syria to the neighbouring countries. The worrying news is that some new diseases are being reported for the first time in all of these countries (lumpy skin disease [LSD]), bluetongue (BT) in Lebanon, and camel pox in Jordan. Endemic diseases in the region whose negative impacts have been minimised through vaccinations and disease reporting before the Syria crisis, have now gained momentum and are causing huge economic losses to livelihoods and assets of farmers and pastoralists. These include foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), peste des petits ruminants (PPR), brucellosis, external and internal parasites. Other diseases that are mainly zoonotic (brucellosis, rabies, bovine tuberculosis, cutaneous leishmaniasis and rickettsia) are also spreading at a rapid rate. Up to 30 percent of neonatal mortalities in livestock are caused by two diseases – enterotoxaemia and pasteurellosis - these are all preventable through vaccination. Most TADs peaks occur during winter months. Veterinary services in Iraq and Lebanon are weak, in Jordan they are inconsistent (but weak in border areas) and in Turkey they are effective (having received European Union support over the past decade) to address such threats. In Egypt, FAO supports the Government’s veterinary services to operate a fully functional TADs control programme, mainly for Avian Influenza (H5N1). There is potential for this programme to be up-scaled to meet the new challenges related to the Syria crisis.						
Subprogrammes						
Short-term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term agricultural recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)		
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	
		R.1.1				
		Outcome: Significant reduction in the threat of TADs in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt and Turkey.				
		Outputs:				
		(i) An effective emergency response to any outbreaks of TADs in the region (particularly in Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey) through the capacity development of veterinary services and support to vaccination campaigns.				
		(ii) Prevention of TADs outbreaks in the region through improved surveillance, diagnostic, epidemiological investigation, reporting, early warning and horizon scanning systems, and upgrading of laboratories and quarantine facilities.				
		(iii) More efficient and effective regional coordination and networking systems for the monitoring and reporting of TADs, including re-establishment of an Regional Centre for Animal Health and Food Safety.				
		(iv) Increased national capacities for the control of TADs (e.g. strategies, scientific advice, technical assistance and training in national responses to animal health threats).				
Beneficiaries				Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff of the Ministries of Agriculture and government and private sector animal health departments, animal diagnostic laboratories and veterinary services 				FAO cost categories		Medium/long-term (USD)
				Personnel and travel		2 699 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministries of Agriculture (animal health departments and veterinary services) of the Governments of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey FAO ECTAD OIE and WHO 				Contracts		3 794 000
				Training		2 525 000
				Expendable and non-expendable procurement		2 250 000
				Technical support services		658 000
				General operating expenses		1 000 000
				Support costs		1 292 600
				Total		14 218 600

Countries	Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and other countries in the Near East region				
Programme name	R.2 Subregional agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources information network (48 months)				
Objective	To promote and support efficient and effective agricultural livelihood and food security emergency and recovery programming in the Near East region in response to the protracted Syria crisis.				
Rationale and justification (Section 3.1): Lack of up-to-date information on the status of livelihoods, food and nutrition security and vulnerability of rural populations in Syria and communities hosting Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. Lack of coordination mechanisms for exchanging information and targeting and planning food and agricultural interventions in the subregion. The intervention is based on lessons learned and successes of FAO's recent national post-disaster agricultural livelihood assessments (e.g. Afghanistan, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines) and national and regional IPC system, which has been adopted or tested by many countries of sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia, with sustained linkages to FAO GIEWS and FAO/WFP's global Food Security Cluster.					
Subprogrammes					
Short-term (1 to 12 months)		Medium-term agricultural recovery (1 to 3 years)		Long-term agricultural development (2 to 5 years)	
<i>January-June 2014</i>	<i>July-December 2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
		<p>Outcome: Efficient and effective agricultural livelihood, food and nutrition security and natural resource programming for vulnerable rural communities in Syria and of countries neighbouring to Syria.</p> <p>Outputs:</p> <p>(i) Greater understanding of livelihood and food accessibility and utilization conditions and natural resources of vulnerable rural communities by stakeholders of the agriculture sectors of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria through the design and establishment of harmonized agricultural livelihood, food and nutrition security, and natural resource assessment methodologies to gather sex-and age-disaggregated data for the status of affected communities, impact of relief and recovery interventions and any uncovered needs.</p> <p>(ii) Enhanced capacity of Ministries of Agriculture of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria and their development partners in conducting and formulating livelihood assessments and agricultural development programmes for impoverished rural areas through the development of assessment and data analysis tools and reporting mechanisms for the approval of relevant stakeholders at the national and regional levels (e.g. Ministries of Agriculture, concerned UN agencies and donors), and training of humanitarian and development actors from Ministries of Agriculture and NGOs on assessment methodologies and coordination mechanisms, including gender awareness.</p> <p>(iii) Regional coordination mechanisms developed and maintained for sharing information on agricultural livelihoods, food and nutrition security and natural resources.</p>			
Beneficiaries			Cost estimate		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff of national governments' food security units, and statistics and agricultural planning departments Staff of specialized NGOs 			FAO cost categories		Medium/long-term (USD)
			Personnel and travel		2 356 000
Implementing partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National government Ministries of Agriculture (food security units and planning directorates) and departments of statistics Specialized NGOs (e.g. ACTED) FAO and WFP Country and Regional Offices FAO GIEWS FAO/WFP's global Food Security Cluster 			Contracts		1 200 000
			Training		178 000
			Expendable and non-expendable procurement		115 500
			Technical support services		54 000
			General operating expenses		184 500
			Support costs		408 800
			Total	4 496 800	

ACTION PLAN – PROGRAMME BUDGETS

Intervention area	Cost estimates (country and tracks) - USD							
	Syria		Jordan			Lebanon		
	ST	MT	ST	MT	LT	ST	MT	LT
Control of TADs	0		2 602 600	6 951 000	0	3 000 000	6 119 400	0
Capacity development and information systems	676 000	2 000 000	752 500	0	0	1 165 400	8 366 400	0
Agriculture income generation and employment	7 500 000		2 100 000	9 600 000	10 410 400	6 900 000	4 036 500	12 500 000
Natural resource management	0		916 300	0	5 263 500	0	4 081 800	0
Control of plant diseases and pests	0		0	2 715 700	0	0	2 715 700	0
Climate-smart agriculture diversification and intensification	35 400 000	55 000 000	1 500 000	0	7 449 400	0	0	0
Food nutrition and food safety	0		870 000	0	0	1 519 300	0	0
Total	43 576 000	57 000 000	8 741 400	19 266 700	23 123 300	12 584 700	25 319 800	12 500 000
National total	100 576 000		51 131 400			50 404 500		

Intervention area	Cost estimates (country and tracks) – USD								
	Iraq			Egypt			Turkey	Regional	Total
	ST	MT	LT	ST	MT	LT	ST	LT	
Control of TADs	1 365 000	5 856 000	0				0	14 218 000	40 112 000
Capacity development and information systems	0	0	0		3 500 000		0	4 496 800	20 957 100
Agriculture income generation and employment	4 800 000	5 620 000	6 094 000	1 804 000	6 451 600	10 500 000	13 012 000	0	101 328 500
Natural resource management	0	0	0				0	0	10 261 600
Control of transboundary plant diseases and pests	0	0	0				0	0	5 431 400
Climate-smart agriculture diversification and intensification	0	0	0				0	0	99 349 400
Food nutrition and food safety	0	0	0				0	0	2 389 300
Total	6 165 000	11 476 000	6 094 000	1 804 000	9 951 600	10 500 000	13 012 000	18 714 800	279 829 300
National total	23 735 000			22 255 600			13 012 000	18 714 800	279 829 300