

## FOOD CHAIN CRISIS MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK: FAO'S APPROACH TO ADDRESS TRANSBOUNDARY THREATS AFFECTING FOOD SAFETY, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH



**OUTBREAKS OF TRANSBOUNDARY** animal and plant pests and diseases, including forest pests and aquatic diseases, food safety and radiation events has been increasing over the past years, impacting people's access to quality food, and putting their livelihoods and health at risk.

To address this challenge, FAO established the **Food Chain Crisis Management Framework (FCC)**, an approach combining prevention, preparedness, and response to emergencies affecting the food chain and caused by transboundary animal and plant pests and diseases (including aquatic and forests pests and diseases), food safety and radiological threats.

FCC enables the utilization of the relevant technical and operational capacities and expertise of FAO under one governance to face transboundary, high impact threats to production, health and environment, and to support countries in the fight against these threats. This approach also contributes to one of FAO's key priorities "increasing the resilience of people's livelihoods to threats and crises".

### FCC functions

ADDRESSES THREATS TO THE FOOD CHAIN OF TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL AND PLANT PEST AND DISEASES ORIGIN (INCLUDING AQUATIC AND FORESTS), AND FOOD SAFETY AND RADIOLOGICAL THREATS

INTEGRATES PREVENTION, EARLY WARNING, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO AN EMERGENCY AT ALL STAGES OF THE FOOD CHAIN

### FCC AT A GLANCE

The FCC is FAO's primary tool for action in support of countries in the global governance of threats to the human food chain at all stages from production to consumption. Two Committees in FAO, the Policy Advisory Committee and Oversight Committee, have the role of governance of these threats and crises. FCC strengthens the capacities of countries to prevent food chain crises. This includes support to adequate surveillance of threats, early warning, preventive and risk mitigating practices, better preparedness and response, and the adoption of adequate policies.

FCC comprises three areas of action dealing comprehensively with the whole cycle of a food chain crisis: coordination and intelligence, prevention and early warning, and response.

Coordination and intelligence supports FCC governance, multi-threat forecasting, information sharing, communication, and advocacy.

Emergency prevention and early warning functions are provided by the three specialized units of EMPRES for animal diseases (including aquatic diseases), plant pests (including forest pests), and food safety threats. They all promote approaches for prevention, early warning, rapid detection and timely response.

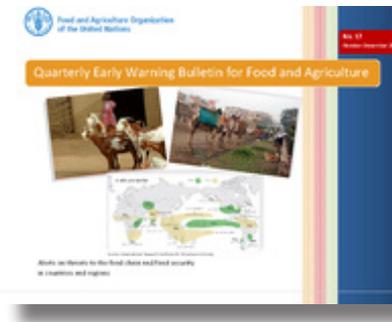
**EMPRES Animal Health** focuses on transboundary animal diseases (TADs), including zoonoses such as African swine fever, Avian influenza, Ebola, Foot-and-mouth disease, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-coronavirus, *Peste des Petit Ruminants*, Rift Valley fever, and others.



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**PREVENTION:**  
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SAVES MONEY.



**EMPRES Plant Protection** focuses on Desert Locust, and other locusts in the Caucasus and Central Asia and Africa, other transboundary insects such as armyworms and fruit flies, and crop diseases such as rust diseases of wheat and coffee, wilt diseases of banana and cassava, and maize diseases.

of countries through development and implementation of mobile devices and touchpad applications for field threat reporting (EMA-i; e-Locust).  
 ▶ Risk modelling tools to monitor animal diseases and zoonoses such as Rift Valley fever.

› **FCC functions**

**GOVERNS THREATS OF TRANSBOUNDARY NATURE THROUGH THE FCC POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND FCC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE IN FAO**

**IMPROVES SURVEILLANCE, RISK ANALYSIS, EARLY DETECTION, EARLY WARNING, AND COMMUNICATION**

**SUPPORTS THREATS FORECASTING THROUGH THE MULTI-THREAT QUARTERLY EARLY WARNING BULLETIN**

**SHOWCASES FCC-EMPRES SUCCESSFUL ACTIVITIES THROUGH MONTHLY FCC INFORMATION SHEETS AND SUPPORTS INFORMATION SHARING THROUGH FCC WEBSITE**

**EMPRES Food Safety** focuses on foodborne pathogens (e.g. salmonella and *Enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli*) and chemical contamination (e.g. mycotoxins, marine biotoxins).

**Response** is supported by a specialized global FCC response unit supporting a timely and adequate country and regional response using EMPRES technical capacities.

**Capacity Development** at regional and national levels has been enhanced through the development of manuals, guidelines, tools and regular delivery of trainings such as:

- ▶ Regional training on locust monitoring and information management for Caucasian countries and Desert Locust affected countries
- ▶ Regional and national trainings to improve veterinary epidemiology capacity, animal diseases surveillance and risk analysis of TADs
- ▶ A new training package and handbook on early warning capacity building for food safety being rolled-out for regions and countries
- ▶ A training on risk of introduction or transfer of live aquatic animals.

**FCC-EMPRES ACHIEVEMENTS**

FCC-EMPRES enhanced capacities of governments and stakeholders in prevention of food chain crises in many countries. A selection of achievements is shown here-below.

**Threat monitoring systems** at national, regional and global levels have been supported through successful information systems such as:

- ▶ the Desert Locust Information Service operating a global early warning system and providing forecasts and analysis for 50 countries
  - ▶ the FAO Global Early Warning System (GLEWS) regularly monitoring the animal disease situation
- Other monitoring activities:
- ▶ Forecasting of threats to animal and plant health and food safety through the quarterly multi- threat early warning bulletin, and other Early Warning Bulletins (Desert Locust Bulletin; Global Animal Disease Intelligence Report, and others).
  - ▶ Rapid event reporting in a number

**Knowledge, skills and information sharing** has been supported for the enhancement of preparedness, early warning, response and monitoring capacities of countries by setting up and reinforcing regional networks and platforms such as the three Commissions for Desert Locust, the epidemiology and veterinary laboratories networks in Asia and Africa, and many other networks.

**Special Programmes** are being implemented such as the Avian Influenza multi-year programme which is supporting countries since 2004 in designing and implementing emergency national control strategies. Also, the locust control campaign in Madagascar has successfully halted the plague through the "Three-year emergency programme".

**FAO FCC**

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