



# Technical Review Meeting on the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture (WCA) 2020

Rome, Italy

7- 8 November 2014



## Theme 11-Household Food Security

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# Food security in WCA 2010

- **Household food security** a complex, multi-dimensional issue
- Thus, **difficult to measure** in surveys even more in census
- Also, a **proper methodology** needed to convert data collected in a meaningful measure comparable over time and across different populations.
- The **food security theme** was introduced in WCA 2010
- **WCA 2010** recommended two broad indicators:
  1. food shortages faced in a 12-month reference period
  2. fear of a food shortage in the next 12 months.
- **Twelve** countries included food security in their agricultural censuses so far



# The Food Insecurity Experience Scale



- In 2013, **FAO project** *Voices of the Hungry* (VOH) developed an innovative approach to access timely and valid information on the severity of food insecurity as experienced by individuals in the population.
- The **approach** uses experience-based food insecurity scales.
- **Premise:** severity of the food insecurity situation can be inferred from observing typical behaviours and experiences.
- The **experience** is measured by eight distinct sub-items.
- These **eight sub-items** result in FAO's newly developed standard: the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (**FIES**).

# Household Food Security Theme: Items



<b>1101</b>	<b>Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)</b> During the last 12 MONTHS, was there a time when You [or any other adult]...
<b>1101(a)</b>	were worried you would not have <u>enough</u> food to eat because of a lack of money or other resources
<b>1101(b)</b>	were unable to eat <u>healthy</u> and <u>nutritious</u> food because of a lack of money or other resources
<b>1101(c)</b>	ate only a <u>few</u> kinds of foods because of a lack of money or other resources
<b>1101(d)</b>	<u>skip</u> a meal because there was not enough money or other resources to get food.
<b>1101(e)</b>	ate <u>less</u> than thought you should because of a lack of money or other resources
<b>1101(f)</b>	household <u>ran out of</u> food because of a lack of money or other resources.
<b>1101(g)</b>	were <u>hungry</u> but did not eat because there was not enough money or other resources for food
<b>1101(h)</b>	went <u>without eating for a whole day</u> because of a lack of money or other resources

# Household FS Theme: Items cont'd



Item	Description
<b>1102</b>	Effects of natural disasters (for the household) <i>(Floods or tidal waves, Drought, Typhoons or hurricanes, Pests, Other)</i>
<b>1103</b>	Extent of loss of agricultural output due to natural disasters (for the household) <i>(None, Slight, Moderate, Severe)</i>

# Final remarks on FIES

- **The eight** “Yes or No” answers should not be analysed independently from each other. They must be analysed jointly to provide a reliable measure of severity.
- **The scale** of severity ranges from being food secure, to mildly, moderately up to severely food insecure.
- **The theme** is relevant to all households and not just agricultural households.
- Thus, it could be well used in more general household surveys





**THANK YOU!**

