



Factsheet

Factsheet

Factsheet

Information Services and Analyses to Address the Global Food Security Crisis

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

Country/Region:	Africa, Asia, Latin America
Leading scientists:	Dr. Teunis van Rheenen, Dr. Maximo Torero
Duration:	June 2009 - May 2012

Initial situation

The drastic rise and volatility in food prices during the past couple of years has raised serious concerns about food and nutrition security across the world. The economic decline has compounded these concerns and contributed to a range of socio-economic, developmental, and security-related consequences. Low income food deficit countries in particular face significant challenges as concerns about inflation and the reversal of



gains made in poverty and hunger reduction persist. Though the relative influence of various factors on global food price inflation remains somewhat open to discussion, the underlying causes are increasingly well understood and noted at the highest policymaking levels. Greater effort is needed, however, to identify more how appropriate policy responses, as well as their scale, prioritization, and sequencing, can be developed and adapted to country-specific needs and conditions.

Approach of the project

The project provides timely information and cutting-edge analysis on policy actions for food and nutrition security. In doing so it contributes to the delivery of relevant briefs for policymakers including the UN Secretary-General and his High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis for decision-making and food security. Research results included in the briefs focus mainly on smallholder agriculture, potential roles of nongovernmental and civil society organizations, risk and vulnerability, and risk assessment of national and international policy responses.

Major results achieved

Several briefs have been developed and disseminated for the purpose of feeding into national, regional, and global policy dialogues. These briefs include:

- Effectiveness of Global Food-Security Information Systems
- Policy Responses for Small-Scale Agriculture in Selected Asian and African Countries
- Global Trends in Nutrition
- Financial and Economic crisis: What are the consequences for developing countries and agricultural trade?
- Tracking of Public Agricultural Expenditure in African Countries
- Price transmission from international agricultural commodity markets to domestic food prices: Case studies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
- Partnerships for Food
- Overcoming hunger in the Horn of Africa: Key Challenges and Policy Priorities
- Are Fertilizer Subsidies Working? An overview of recent fertilizer programs in Africa
- Better Practices in Partnership

Beneficiaries of these briefs include the UN Secretary-General and his High Level Task Force and through them national policymakers, policy researchers, development partners, NGOs, and regional organizations involved in food security issues.

Expected impact

The research conducted for the development and dissemination of food security related briefs for policymakers contributes to decision-making processes

worldwide. Beyond informing the decision-making process at the UN Secretary General's Office, the project facilitates policy responses at local, national, and regional levels to enhancing global food and nutrition security.



Collaborating Institutions: High Level Task Force on the Food Crisis Secretariat (UNDP).

The Advisory Service on Agricultural Research for Development (BEAF) manages Germany's contribution to international agricultural research. Instruments for implementation are project funding, postdoc funding, small grants and liaising between German and international researchers. BEAF is part of GIZ and acts on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Imprint

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Advisory Service on Agricultural Research
for Development (BEAF)

Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn, Germany

T +49 61 96 79-3347
F +49 61 96 79-803347
E beaf@giz.de
I www.giz.de/agricultural-research

Dahlmannstr. 4
53113 Bonn

T +49 228 24934 231
F +49 228 24934 215
E judith.jansen@giz.de

Photo credit:

p.1, left: © 2008 Ellis Zerfu/IFPRI
p.2, right: © 2009 Bart Minten/IFPRI

Contact:

Dr. Teunis van Rheenen: t.vanrheenen@cgiar.org