



# **Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme**

**2014 Work Plan**

**Jan 2014**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme (FSPS) is a three year project funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Government of Sudan. FSPS was designed to support the state governments' in addressing the capacity gaps related to: (a) food security inter-sectoral institutional coordination framework, food security policy and information system; and (b) the line ministries' policy planning, budgeting, monitoring and implementation capacity.

Since its launch in April 2013, the FSPS programme has made steadily progress towards achieving the intended results of the project. In this regard, the FSPS initiated a number of capacity building activities in 2013. Among the major milestones accomplished in 2013 were; the establishment of the Food Security Committees (FSCs) and State Food Security Technical Secretariat (FSTS) in all States. The FSC is expected to take the lead role in food security decision making whereas the FSTS is the technical wing of the FSC which is mainly involved in data and information compilation, analysis and reporting. The FSTS in all States have already started food security data collection, compilation and analysis activities. At the end of 2013 almost all states FSTSs managed to produce food security bulletins with technical support from the Technical Support Units (TSUs) of the FSPS programme.

A comprehensive Capacity Need Assessment (CNA) was conducted at the end of 2013 with overall objective of examining the existing capacity, identify the gaps, and propose sustainable measures to address the capacity gaps identified, as the FSPS project focuses on building from what capacities already exists. Key findings from the CNA validation workshop were taken into consideration in developing the 2014 Annual Workplan.

In 2014 more capacity building support will be provided to activity areas that were initiated in 2013 and those identified through the CNA and the validation and planning workshops. The enhancement of inter-sectoral coordination framework through strengthening the institutional set ups that were established in 2013 will be one of the key areas that will be supported in 2014.

Specific and targeted capacity building supports will also be provided to the staff of line ministries involved in food security to improve their capacity to review, plan, and budget and monitor food security policies and strategies. In this regard, the activities of 2014 will specifically focus on providing trainings based capacity building support on how to review and design policies and strategies; reviewing of existing food security related policies and

strategies; and preparation of situation analysis report. Depending on the outcome of the policy review process and based on actual needs, support will be provided in formulation and designing of food security related policies, strategies and programmes. In addition, efforts will be put to establish policy dialogue fora with major objective of enhancing policy formulation and policy discussion among stakeholders in well-coordinated manner.

Strengthening the food security information system is another key area that requires strong support in 2014. Support in this regard will specifically geared towards strengthening key food security information system components that include crop production monitoring; livestock and fisheries production monitoring; market information, and health and nutrition monitoring. In all these areas of capacity building support will be provided to enhance data collection, compilation, analysis and reporting. Capacity improvement in integrated food security analysis and reporting will also receive due attention in 2014. Training of relevant staff of partner institutions in these areas will be the key activity area that will receive due attention in this regard. Additional technical support will also be provided to establish a proper database system for enhancing data storage and easy accessibility. Designing and development of a website has also been identified as one key area that requires support for enhancing food security related data and information sharing.

A capacity development support will also be provided to the food security oriented Non-State Actors' (NSAs) after identifying their capacity needs. The NSAs can play active role in influencing food and nutrition security policy process and outcomes and therefore, building their capacities is of vital importance to the success and sustainability of the programme. They can contribute a lot in designing beneficiaries' friendly policy development and planning by providing ideas and evidence. They can also be important State government partners for supportive inclusive dialogue/consultations to determine food and nutrition policy value added to the state development agenda and in identifying and refining State priorities and ensuring alignments to the interests of target beneficiaries. In this regard, specific support will be provided to improve the capacity of NSA in policy dialogues, lobbying and advocacy skills. Efforts will also put to improve their understanding on basics of policy and strategy development and the role of NSA involvement in the process.

Another area of focus during 2014 will be targeted research aimed at identifying key drivers of food insecurity. The research and studies will be supported in all States. The research agenda and main area of concern that needs to be researched were identified in each State through consultative workshops held in each State in 2013. The one day workshops brought together key stakeholders to discuss key area of concern that need investigations to find out how they impact food security in their State. In 2014, financial and technical supports will be provided to kick start research activities identified in each State.

In 2014 efforts will put to address cross cutting issues such gender and climate change. The support will basically include supporting assessments to identify how to streamline these aspects in the programme implementation plan while initiating some training based capacity building activities related to the issue of climate change, gender, and food security. Measures will be taken to ensure the sustainability of the FSPS programme initiatives mainly through streamlining the institutional setups created with the support of the programme in the existing government structures, ensuring inclusion of local training institutions on training based capacity building programme, and strengthening the line ministries departments that deal with policies and programming.

Management and coordination support will also be provided in the plan year with focuses on procurement, logistics, planning, monitoring and reporting including mid-term evaluation planned for Sep 2014. Most of the activities under this section will be undertaken by the Programme Support Unit in collaboration with the Technical Support Unit in the State.

## INTRODUCTION

The Food Security Policy and Strategy Capacity Building Programme (FSPS) is a three year project funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Government of Sudan. In 2013, the FSPS program made significant progress and accomplished major milestones towards achieving its objective.

The 2014 annual work planning process has involved stakeholders' consultation through a one day planning workshop that was held in each State. The workshop basically aimed at reviewing the main achievements of 2013 and planning for 2014 Programme activities in consultation with main stakeholders of the programme. Prior to the planning workshop, a two days Capacity Need Assessment (CNA) validation workshop were organised to discuss the findings of the assessment and to consider inclusion of capacity gap in the annual work plan. The workshop brought together State partners in the Food Security Sector to confirm the findings of the CNA conducted in November-December 2013 by the FSPS Programme. The Overall Objective of the CNA was to examine the existing capacity, identify the gaps, and propose sustainable measures to address the capacity gaps identified, as the FSPS project focuses on building from what capacities already exists. Key findings from the CNA validation workshop were taken into consideration in developing the 2014 Annual Workplan. Hence, preparation of the 2014 work plan was based on the following; the 2013 workplan unfinished tasks, findings of CNA exercise, and views and opinions of stakeholders for the desired change expressed during the planning workshop.

The 2014 Annual Workplan covers the period from January to December 2014. The main purpose of this workplan narrative is to provide an overview of the planned FSPS Programme activities to be carried out in the four States which the FSPS programme covers. The Workplan follows the expected outputs. Each of the activities under the five outputs is hereby presented with a brief background, detail of activities to be undertaken and expected results of each activity. In addition, additional sections that discuss cross cutting issues and managements and coordination aspects that are expected to be implemented during the plan year have been discussed in this narrative plan report.

**OUTPUT 1: EFFECTIVE CROSS-SECTORAL FOOD SECURITY INSTITUTIONAL SETUP  
ESTABLISHED AND LINKED TO THE FOOD SECURITY INSTITUTIONAL  
FRAMEWORK**

**1.1 Capacity building support to the FSTS**

**Background**

The FSTS is a permanent body within each State that is responsible for supporting the FSC with the necessary information on food security. It also renders support to the line ministries on information required for appropriate food security policy and strategy development. The FSTS was established in 2013 with technical and financial support from FSPS. It is composed of full time technical staff seconded by the State Government line ministries.

The CNA has identified that data and information not adequately available for the FSTS to support its food security analysis and reporting activities in addition to the limited technical capacity in data analysis.

Persistent support is highly required to the FSTS to make sure that it can provide timely and reliable information that could support informed decision making. The capacity building supports will have to basically focus on improving the FSTS team's capacities in food security related data and information collection, compilation, analysis and reporting, and dissemination skills.

**Activities**

FSPS will continue to provide technical and financial support to the FSTS in 2014, through a Letter of Agreement (LOA), so that the FSTS continues coordinating food security data collection, archiving and analysis exercises on regular basis. More training will be given in each of the food security information areas indicated above. Wherever required and based on specific needs of each State, essential soft wares and accompanied trainings will be given to relevant staff of the FSTS and line ministries. Training on policy review and analysis and related topics will also be another area of concern that will be dealt in 2014.

**Indicators**

- Data and information flows from line ministries and localities to FSTS enhanced
- Skill and knowledge enhancing trainings delivered
- Food Security updates and policy briefs produced
- Food security assessment conducted and reports produced
- Database of food security information established

**States**

All the four States

**1.2 Support operations of the state Food Security Committee****Background**

The FSCs were restructured and/or established through decrees issued by Governors of all the target States in 2013. FSC is the highest decision making body on food security issues in the State. It is mandated to provide guidance and ensure the overall alignment and harmonization of food security initiatives. The first meetings of FSC were conducted in all States at the end of 2013 and beginning of January 2014.

The CNA indicated the need to enhance understanding of FSC members in food security concepts, policy and strategy development; as there is limited knowledge and understanding of these issues.

**Activities**

Orientation training and awareness raising sessions which aimed at enhancing understandings of the FSC members on basics of food security and policy and programming issues will be organised in the 2014. Facilitation support will also be given by the TSU to the FSC regular meetings. In addition, support will be provided by the FSTS in reviewing and producing proceedings of the FSC quarterly meetings. Through their regular analytical work and information products, the FSTS will support the FSC secretariat by regularly providing policy agendas that needs attentions of the FSC.

**Indicators**

- Food Security Committees meetings conducted
- Information, report and updates provided to the FSC
- Awareness raising on Food security basics and policies and programming issues organised
- Facilitation support provided to FSC quarterly meetings

**States**

All the four States



### **1.3 Strengthening the Food Security Technical Working Groups and support their Operationalization**

#### **Background**

The FSWG is one of the key mechanisms for data and information exchange among food security stakeholders. It is FSTS's major vehicles for information sharing, joint analysis and building consensus on recommendations for addressing food security related challenges in the States. Supports were provided by the TSU in 2013 for establishing new FSWG and strengthening the existing ones. The working groups are composed of government and non-governmental institutions that include State based CBOs.

The CNA identified that there is poor coordination among food security stakeholders as well as unclear mandates of the FSWGs. Therefore there is a need to enhance coordination and define their roles and responsibilities through preparation of the Terms of Reference.

#### **Activities**

Support will be provided to the FSTWG to strengthen and make them more operational. The FSPS programme will continue to provide technical and facilitation support of meetings of the FSTWG. The information generated from the various FSTWG will be archived in the FSTS data repository and used for the regular food security update bulletins and other analytical work. FSTS and the institutions chairing the working groups will be responsible for coordinating data and information compilation, analysis, and policy briefs production.

Efforts will be made to adequately address the IPC tool in each of the FSTWG information generation and analysis activities through trainings and joint analysis exercise, as an effort to streamline the tool in all relevant food security information analysis activities.

#### **Indicators**

- Enhanced coordination among key FS stakeholders through FSTWGs
- Enhanced data and information exchange
- Contribution made for production of food security food security update reports
- Trainings provided to FSTWs

#### **States**

All the four States

## **1.4 Enhance coordination with Federal level institutions (FFSTS)**

### **Background**

The state level food security and policy development initiatives needs to be consistent and in harmony with National level polices and strategies. In addition, national level food security analysis and decision making process needs to be supported by data and information generated by the State level actors. It is therefore; highly essential that State FSTS strongly linked with the National level FSTS to make sure that there is regular flow of information to the National level and vice versa.

The CNA revealed that there is poor linkages and coordination between State and Federal level food security institutions and hence the need to establish strong linkage between the Federal and State level Food Security Secretariat.

### **Activities**

Regular backstopping mission needs to be organized by the Federal FSTS to the State level. The FSTS is also required to organise regular meetings that would be attended by their counterparts in the States. Creating improved communication mechanism between the States and FSTS is another area that FSPS will support in 2014.

### **Indicators**

- Reports and documents shared between the State and Federal FSTS.
- Quarterly backstopping visits by F FSTS.

### **States**

All the four States

## **1.5 Strengthening locality level FSI producing departments and units**

### **Background**

Localities are sources of the food and nutrition security data and information. Various food security related data sets in the States are normally collected through collaborative efforts of locality level institutions and their counterpart at the State level. Data related to market prices, rainfall, seasonal crop production, water and pasture, livestock diseases, etc. could be obtained only through forging strong linkage with locality level institutions. Thus it is essential to provide adequate capacity building support to localities level institutions involved in generation of various food security related data and information.

It was indicated in the CNA report that there is limited capacity and resources at the locality level to conduct food security data and information collection and dissemination activities.

### **Activities**

Support formation of FSI units in the localities, facilitation of nomination of a Focal Person (FP) who coordinates these activities. As required and based on real need, light operational support such as provision of mobile phone and air times and basic stationaries will be provided to those involved in data collection and dissemination activities in the localities. Trainings in data collection, management and communication are another area of support that will be provided to the locality relevant staff.

### **Indicators**

- FSI units supported in localities
- FSI focal persons are identified in each State
- Training provided to relevant locality level institutions

### **States**

All the four States

## **1.6 Enhance coordination and establish linkages with localities**

### **Background**

Locality level FSI units are the main sources of data and information to the state FSTS and line ministries. It is thus important that the FSTS provide regular backstopping to the locality level institutions. Forging coordination mechanisms of this kind and regular backstopping by the FSTS expected to improve the quality of the food security information from the localities.

It was indicated in the CNA report that there is limited linkage and coordination between State and locality level food security institutions.

### **Activities**

Regular backstopping mission by the FSTS to the locality level is one of the activities that will be supported by the FSPS. In addition, regular coordination meetings between FSTS and FSI units in the localities are important activity that will be facilitated in the plan year. Regular sharing of information using various ICTs tools is another area that needs to be supported to enhance coordination between States and localities. When and where it is required, support will be provide to make sure relevant locality staff attend regular and essential meetings organized by SFSTS.

### **Indicators**

- Reports and documents shared between localities and States
- Backstopping missions conducted by the FSTS team to the localities
- Regular coordination meeting organized by the FSTS and attended by FP in localities

## **States**

All the four States

## **OUTPUT 2: GOVERNMENT’S CAPACITY TO REVIEW, PLAN, BUDGET AND MONITOR FOOD SECURITY POLICIES AND STRATEGIES DEVELOPED, RESULTING IN MORE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC ACTION FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION.**

### **2.1 Identification and review of selected food security related policy documents**

#### **Background**

According to the Capacity Need Assessment reports, there are various policy documents produced by State level institutions, though their linkage to Federal level initiatives are not well defined and is not clear how the policies have addressed key food security objectives. It is, therefore, paramount importance to take inventory of all available food security related sector polices, review them, and propose improvements as necessary. The reviews also need to identify areas where new policies and strategies are required.

The CNA has indicated that there is a need to identify, compile, and review the exiting food security related policy and strategy documents.

#### **Activities**

The main activities here include identification of food security related policies documents. The TSU supported by the FSTS and line ministries will identify and compile all available food security related sectoral and multi-sectoral policies, strategies and programmes.

Following identification, review and analysis of selected policy documents will be conducted. The review process will not only concentrate on rural development, agricultural and livestock policies and programmes but also aspects of other policies and programmes that may have a food security implication such as small scale agriculture and gender equality in food security. The analysis will help in assessing areas for improvement with respect to the existing food security policies and strategies and recommendations for improvement, and when required to formulate new ones.

#### **Indicators**

- Policies documents identified and properly stored

- Policies reviewed and analysed
- Consultative meetings held and workshops organised

## **2.2 Prepare a situation analysis report on the status of food security policies, strategies, programs in the State**

### **Background**

Analysing the existing policies would help to find out strengths and weaknesses and understand the status of their implementation. It is common practice in Africa that policies are developed without a good record of implementation. Analysis and reporting of the status of food security policies, therefore, will help the State government to understand shortcomings and take corrective measures in the future policy development initiatives.

### **Activities**

Major activities here include conducting a desk review of existing policies and producing a situation analysis report on the status of food security related policies/strategies/programmes in the States. The reports will be discussed in a consultations workshop that will be organized at the State level involving state and non-state actors, including producer organizations representing large and small farmers and men and women. The final report will be compiled and submitted to the State level decision makers for further policy action.

### **Indicators**

- Situation analysis report produced
- Consultation and validation workshops conducted

### **States**

All the four States

## **2.3 Revising and designing food security related policies and strategies, as needed**

### **Background**

Based on the review process of the existing food security policies indicated in section 2.1, support will be provided to revise and design new policies as required and based on the critical needs of each State Government. The review mentioned above is expected to map out the way forward on how best to address the policy gaps; either through revision and modification of the existing ones or designing new ones.

### **Activities**

Revision of policies will be conducted on selected policies that need improvements and

significant modifications based on the review process.

If the findings of the review process strongly and convincingly recommend formulation of new policies in relevant aspects of food security issues, support will be provided to design new policies and programmes. A concept note on how to proceed with the policy revision development process will be prepared and discussed by the relevant stakeholders before starting the policy design process.

### **Indicators**

- Food security related sector policies revised
- Designing of food security related policies initiated
- Stakeholders workshops organised and consensus reached on certain issues of sector policy revision and formulation

### **States**

All the four States

## **2.4 *Establish and coach policy dialogue forums***

### **Background**

A policy dialogue is a vehicle through which stakeholders can be helped to see problems from each other's perspectives – in order to bring improvements to a policy or programme. Creating a multi-sectoral platform that could bring all interested parties and food security stakeholders is essential to air and discuss key policy agendas that require public action and follow up. The CNA assessment reports have identified that there is very scanty policy dialogues that could enhance policy debates and discussions among stakeholders in the States.

### **Activities**

A Policy Dialogue Forum (PDF) that will regularly discuss policy agendas in the State will be established. The PDF will serve as the forum of discussion for all policy related initiatives in the States. It will work to create better understandings of the policy environment and will be important platform to support policy identification and status of policy reports preparation activities mentioned above.

Identification of key stakeholders and preparation of Terms of Reference (ToR) are the primary activity to be undertaken to initiate the establishment process of the PDF. Consideration will be given to balancing state and non-state actors, including large and small producers and women and men. Once it is done, facilitation support will be provided through multi-stakeholder's consultations and bilateral meetings by TSU/FSTS. Support will also be provided

in organising periodic PDF meetings. The outcome of the PDF meetings needs to be properly documented and disseminated to decision makers. Skills need to be developed on guiding inclusive and participatory coordination mechanisms.

#### **Indicators**

- Policy dialogue forum established
- Policy dialogue forums meetings organized and reports produced and disseminated accordingly

#### **States**

All the four States

### **2.5 Training support provided to partners on food security policy and related topics**

#### **Background**

Having adequate food security policies in place is essential prerequisite for economic development efforts. Having skilled and capable technical personnel is a cornerstone for any policy review and analysis and development effort. The CNA has revealed that there is lack of understandings of the concept of policy and strategy and its implication on state's overall development plans by most State and non-state actors. There is also lack of knowledge on how to review, analyse, and formulate sector policies. It is therefore critically important to fill these capacity gaps through a serious of on- job and off-job trainings to relevant staff of the state institutions and non-State actors.

#### **Activities**

The main activity in 2014 will be organizing a food security policy related training programme (in country training) that is aimed at equipping relevant staff of State and non-state actors with basic food security policy design and analysis tools and concepts. Short-term trainings in regional training institutions for FSTS staff and relevant staff of partner ministries are also envisaged in the plan year.

#### **Indicators**

- Staff of State Government and State and Ministries staff trained in various policy topics
- Trained staff participated in policy review and design activities initiated in the States

#### **States**

All the four States

## **OUTPUT 3: FUNCTIONAL REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS STRENGTHENED AND SUPPORTS DECISION MAKING**

Capacity Development in all activities of output 3 will largely involve the strengthening of data collection, analysis and reporting skills of the ministry staff at state and locality levels. Data storage will be enhanced in the line ministries at state level.

### **3.1 Support market information system**

#### **Background**

Monitoring of prices of major agricultural and livestock products is important to address the supply and demand pattern and access dimension of food security. Developing market information system that oversee the functionalities of major markets and enhance price monitoring activities in the selected States is thus essential. The Food and Agriculture Market Information System that was established with support from the SIFSIA project is still operational and actively involved in data collection from the capital cities of each State. Currently, FAMIS is supported by FEWSNET and is under direct supervision of the Federal FSTS. The FSPS has already started to collaborate with FEWS NET and Federal FSTS by organising joint training programme in market information which was delivered to State FSTS team in 2013.

The CNA has identified that the qualities of market information, though collected more extensively than other, have found inconsistent in terms of methods and tools used by various actors. It has also identified poor coordination among the various institutions that collect market price data regularly.

#### **Activities**

In 2014 efforts will be put to support market price data collection activities started by FAMIS. Expand market price data collection activities to the localities; training of a locality staff involved in data collection, management, and reporting; and provision of essential communication facilities to those involved in data collection are the core activities expected to be performed in the plan year.

#### **Indicators**

- Market price data collected from the State capitals and localities
- Relevant State and localities trained on market price data collection, management and analysis Basic data storage and processing facilities provided to the State and localities
- Standard data collection methods applied by all actors involved in Market information activities



## **States**

All the four States

### **3.2 Crop production monitoring**

#### **Background**

Monitoring crop performance and production forecasts are critical activities for planning food security as this provides information on the availability of grain on the market. This will provide early warning signals and food security outlooks in areas where agriculture plays significantly in addressing food security at subnational and household level. In 2013 support was provided to the State MoAARF to Gedaref, Blue Nile and Kassala States to conduct pre and post-harvest and mid-season assessments. In addition, support was provided to annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM). These activities were conducted in the mentioned States in coordination with Federal level ministry of Agriculture and have served as one of important platforms for enhancing coordination with the Federal level institutions.

The CNA has revealed poor quality of crop related data collection and analysis as well as untimely report dissemination. In addition, limited capacity of staff involved in crop assessments identified as one of the key weakness indicated in the CNA.

#### **Activities**

The programme will continue to assist the Ministry of Agriculture to conduct crop production monitoring activities by providing particular support to activities related to establishing crop production database (statistics) and data exchange mechanisms; seasonal crop assessments (mid-season and pre harvest); and training on crop assessment methodologies. Equally important activity to be undertaken is strengthening of agro metrological data collection and analysis through provision of rain gauge and capacity building training on agro-metrological monitoring and analysis.

#### **Indicators**

- Development of agriculture statistics supported (cultivated area and production in the States)
- Seasonal mid-season and pre -harvest crop assessments conducted
- metrological stations supported and regularly monitored and report produced
- Relevant state level staff trained on metrological data collection
- Facilities for data storage and processing provided to relevant unit in the States.

### **3.3 Livestock and Fisheries monitoring**

#### **Background**

Very significant proportions of households in all States of Sudan depend on livestock for their livelihoods. It is therefore, important to monitor livestock performance in terms of their productivity, livestock health, migration pattern, rangeland performance, etc. Monitoring of fisheries activities are also important to consider in the States where fishing and forestry constitute significant parts of the livelihood support mechanisms of majority of rural and urban households.

The CNA revealed that livestock and fisheries production monitoring, analysis and reporting activities have not been done adequately on regular basis. Weak communication and coordination among livestock and fisheries stakeholders' is another shortcomings identified by the CNA.

#### **Activities**

The primary activity to be undertaken here is to support the Ministry/Department of Animal Resources and Fisheries in development of methods and tools for effective livestock and fisheries monitoring activities in each State. Specific support will also be provided on strengthening the livestock and fisheries statistics through establishing a proper data base on livestock. The support will also include conducting studies related to livestock migration patterns (seasonal movement inside and outside the State), document livestock migratory routes and other related topics. Relevant staff will also be trained on in data collection, management, analysis and report writing. Data storage and processing facilities such as computers will be provided to relevant units of line ministries to support livestock statistic and database establishment and management.

#### **Indicators**

- Appropriate methods and tools for effective livestock monitoring and reporting system established
- Livestock data base(statistics) is established
- Staff from state and localities trained on livestock related data collection, analysis and report writing
- Data storage and processing facilities provide to support livestock monitoring activities
- Livestock related studies conducted

### **3.4 Natural resource monitoring (forestry, water, etc.)**

#### **Background**

Monitoring of natural resource base of the state is very important to determine State development policies that should be in line with the natural resource base of the State. A Land cover map that covers the whole of Sudan and disaggregated by State was developed with SIFSIA project support. This map could serve as a base for initiating a natural resource monitoring activities in each targeted State. Capacity building on natural resource monitoring is essential that it helps mandated institutions at national and State level with enhanced capacities on sustainable decision making and policy development in the use of natural resources.

### **Activities**

The activity will concentrate efforts towards the assessment and monitoring of those natural resources that are more relevant to vulnerable people's livelihoods such as pastures, water for livestock use, forests and land uses in traditional/smallholders farming areas states. One of the main activities that will be undertaken in the plan year is provisions of training on natural resource monitoring and GIS and Remote Sensing techniques.

### **Indicators**

- Training provided to staff of relevant units in line ministries in natural resource monitoring
- Training on GIS and remote sensing provided to relevant Staff in the States

## **3.5 Nutrition monitoring activities**

### **Background**

As one of important pillars of food security, it is paramount importance to strengthen nutrition monitoring activities. This can be provided through improving the capacities of relevant institution in the State. As the lead institute in coordinating nutrition assessments and other nutrition related activities in the States, it is important to support Department of Nutrition (DoN) of the Ministry of Health. In addition, it is also important to support nutrition working groups, wherever they exist, as the working groups are important mechanisms for data and information exchange related to food and nutrition security.

It was identified by the CNA that there is limited capacity in nutrition monitoring, analysis and dissemination activities at State level. It was also indicated that there is no properly and systematically stored nutrition database in the States.

### **Activities**

The core activities in the plan year include supporting the DoN to compile nutrition survey reports and support training on data management as needed; provide data storage and processing facilities; training to DoN and NWG members on nutrition monitoring approaches;

and training support to selected staff of the DoN and NWG on food and nutrition security concept and information system.

#### **Indicator**

- Nutrition database established
- Training on nutrition monitoring approach provided
- Data collection and processing facilities provided to DoN

### **3.6 Support integrated food security analysis activities**

#### **Background**

Food security is a broad concept that involves a number of issues that requires multi-disciplinary approach to deal with it. In order to know the status of food insecurity in comprehensive manner, it is thus important to conduct integrated analysis. Currently, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is the most acceptable tool to conduct integrated situation analysis. The FSPS programme has been supporting the IPC exercise in Sudan through particularly providing capacity building support to the FSTS team and coordinating the IPC analysis exercise in the State. As a result, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders at the State level more exposed to the IPC approach and technique as a tool for food security situation analysis. The support was given in close collaboration with FSTS which is the lead institution to coordinate IPC process in Sudan.

The CNA recommended the need to improve data quality and dissemination of the IPC product. There is a need for coordinated efforts among stakeholders to share and make available updated data.

#### **Activities**

More training support will be provided in 2014 in the same area but with high number of trainee and IPC practitioners in each States. In addition to this enhancing coordination through strengthening the IPC working group is essential activity to include in the plan year. Facilitation support will also be provided to the IPC working group in the States to conduct regular IPC analysis exercise. Support will also be make sure that the findings of the IPC analysis exercises has been regularly presented and disseminated to decision makers and other stakeholders

#### **Indicator**

- Training provided to IPC working group and other stakeholders
- IPC report produced and disseminated

**States**

All the four State

**3.7 Support preparation (compilation) a report on of food security situation and policy environment****Background**

It is recognized during the inception phase that published reports and other information product very much lacking in the four States. It resulted in lack of reference material in terms of data availability reflecting different food security parameters and the policy and programming environment in historical perspective. This type of information interest's development partners and investors interested to play a role in the State. It is crucial to assess and compile all available data and produce reports that describe the general food and nutrition situation of the State.

**Activities**

The main activity here is preparation of the situation report based on desk review and consultation with major stakeholders. Technical support will be provided and Terms of Reference will be prepared to guide the assessment and preparation of the report. Generally speaking, the information expected from the situation analysis include, among others, agricultural and livestock production activities and relevant statistics that include major crops and livestock types and their contribution as a means of income and food at household level. Moreover, source of food and income, multiyear price patterns of major food commodities, malnutrition rate in multiple years, and food security policy environment are of the issues that need to be addressed in the situation report. The report can serve us a reference material for any food security related development intervention in the state.

**Indicators**

- Assessment conducted and validation workshop organise
- Report produced and disseminated

**States**

All the four States

### **3.8 Support preparation of regular food security update bulletins and policy briefs**

#### **Background**

The productions of food security bulletins are extremely important for the enhancement of State government's informed decision making process and action. During the second half of 2013, most states' FSTS managed to produce food security update reports, though the quality of the reports needs to be improved. More capacity building support needs to be provided to the FSTS team in 2014. Formal short term trainings and on-job coaching and mentoring are the type of capacity building support that should be provided to the FSTS team.

In adequate dissemination of food security information products was recognised by the CNA as one of the constraints.

#### **Activities**

The FSPS/TSU will continue to work with the FSTS and relevant stakeholders in supporting their capacity in monitoring and reporting of food security situation on regular basis. The TSU will particularly provide the necessary capacity building and mentoring for the FSTS staff and partner organization to continue the production of comprehensive Food Security Update Bulletins and sector specific reports such as market outlooks, nutrition reports, agro-met reports(where applicable). Moreover, the FSTS in collaboration with relevant ministries will produce policy briefs that need urgent policy action. The FSTS will work to establish appropriate networks, as networking with relevant state and non-state actors is paramount important for enhancing data sharing, exchange joint analysis.

#### **Indicators**

- Regular food security updates produced
- Sector specific reports produced
- Policy briefs prepared
- Enhanced networking and partnership among State and non-state actors

#### **States**

All the four States

### **3.9 Database design and website development**

#### **Background**

A website is one of the most effective ways of disseminating information to a wider audience. During the 2014 workplan workshop, the importance of having FSTS website discussed and the need for its development through FSPS support has been emphasised. It was indicated in the

workshop that it is a very good tool for easy data and information sharing. It is therefore important to assess the possibility of developing a website and provide support to its design and development based on the outcome of the assessment.

The inadequate disseminations of food security products identified by the CNA can be addressed by supporting development of websites and other communication means.

### **Activities**

All available options will be assessed on how to design the FSTS website. The FSTS website will serve as a clearing house for food security related information in the four States. All the documentation pertaining to capacity building, food security briefs, bulletins, research reports, surveys, assessments, etc. will be uploaded on the website.

Moreover, special capacity building support will be provided to develop a proper database to the FSTS. This will enhance systematic data storage and ease access to data.

### **Indicators**

- Operational website providing quality and up-to-date information.
- Accessible food security documentation.
- FSTS data base establishment.

## **OUTPUT 4: CAPACITY OF FOOD SECURITY ORIENTED NON-STATE ACTORS' STRENGTHENED**

### **4.1 Design and implement capacity development support to Non-State actors**

#### **Background**

A capacity development support will also be provided to the food security oriented Non-State Actors'. NSAs can play active role in influencing food and nutrition security policy process and outcomes. They can contribute a lot in designing beneficiaries' friendly policy development and planning by providing ideas and evidence. They can also be important State government partners for supportive inclusive dialogue/consultations to determine food and nutrition policy value added to the state development agenda and in identifying and refining State priorities and ensuring alignments to the interests of target beneficiaries.

It was identified that there is limited knowledge, capacity, and involvement on policy and strategy development and concepts of food security by the NSAs.

## **Activities**

To kick start a capacity development efforts in systematic manner, a capacity development plan targeting NSA will be developed in each State. This will built up on the already conducted capacity needs identification exercise conducted by the TSU in 2013 and the CNA findings related to NSAs. The support to NSAs will basically need to address their capacity needs in areas of policy dialogues, lobbying and advocacy skills. Efforts will also be put to improve their understanding on basics of policy and strategy development and the role of NSA involvement in the process. NSAs will include rural institutions such as organizations of large and small producers, women and men, research and academia and private sector.

## **Indicators**

- Training provided to the NSA
- NSA contributed data and information to the FSTS and vice versa.
- NSA participated in sector policy review process.
- NSA actively participated in food security policy dialogue forums and coordination meetings

## **OUTPUT 5: KEY FOOD INSECURITY DRIVERS ARE BETTER UNDERSTOOD AND INTEGRATED TO DECISION MAKING**

### **5.1 Support food security research**

#### **Background**

Food security challenges in the different States of Sudan are different due to the fact that various factors affect food security differently in one location than the other. It is, therefore, essential to conduct State level research and studies to identify the various factors affecting food insecurity in each State. The FSPS provides resources to further understand the challenges of food security through research and other means of collecting data for decision making. The resources will be utilised essentially to support initiatives identified at (or relevant to) local/state level by public institutions and local NGOs.

#### **Activities**

The activity will involve supporting food security related capacity building initiatives to specific research work that will contribute to better understanding of the food security challenges in a specific context. A call for proposals will be placed in the public media for attracting interested institutions who can conduct the research.



A detailed guideline that explains on how to use the resource and specific area of concerns of the research was prepared during 2013 implementation period and will be used for selection of successful institutions for provision of resources.

The main activities in 2014 include establishment of the selection panel and support the research activities. The selection panel will be involved in the selection as well as in the monitoring of the research activities. Findings of the research will be discussed in a workshop that will be organised after the preliminary report is prepared. The final research report will be published and the research will be disseminated widely for application and decision making by State Government and other stakeholders.

#### **Indicators**

- Research conducted and consultations workshops organised
- Information on the Key contributing factors to food insecurity identified and provided to decision makers
- Research reports produced and disseminated

#### **6. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

In the plan year, efforts will put to address cross cutting issues such as gender and climate change. The support will basically include supporting assessments to identify how to streamline these aspects in the programme implementation plan while trying to initiating some training based capacity building activities directly related to the issue of climate change, gender, and food security.

Assessing and identifying the entry points for addressing the gender issues in all components of the programme activities will be conducted by a consultant. Based on the outcome of the consultancy, additional activities will be sought to address the gender issue. In the meantime all efforts will be put to address the gender dimensions of the programme implementation based on available information and experiences of other similar programmes in the region.

The programme will also assess options on how to address the issue of climate change in its 2014 planning year. In the meantime some activities will be implemented in conjunction with activities clearly connected to the various outputs of the programme such as training on the impact of climate change on food security, strengthening climate monitoring activities focusing on key indicators (drought, flood, rainfall amount). Climate issues will also receive adequate attention on food security related researches that the programme will be supporting in the frameworks of the programme's output (output 5).

## **7. SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES**

Institutionalization of food security capacity building initiatives is a key for sustaining the capacity development programme of the FSPS. The main institutions established with the support from the programme specially the FSTS needs to be streamlined into the government structure. Intensive lobbying and advocacy will be one of the focus areas by the programme to make sure that the FSTS is included in the State Government structure. The State Government has already demonstrated its commitment by allowing the FSTS team to be comprised of seconded staff from relevant State line ministries. Further work will have to be undertaken to ensure that the FSTS remain part and parcel of the State Government civil service structure after phasing out of the FSPS programme. In addition to the FSTSs being institutionalized, it is essential that line ministries in the states take on much of the responsibility of food security information systems.

Another area that needs due consideration is to work on localization of the training based capacity development activities. It needs to be emphasized that that food security related training courses are integrated into the national training and education system. Post-secondary educational institutions, in particular, can provide useful capacity building. Training these “experts and decision-makers of the future” can lead to long-term capacity development and increase the likelihood that the capacity development efforts will be self-sustaining. It is therefore crucial the FSPS programme establish strong linkage with be established with State based post-secondary training institutions to develop a roadmap on how to incorporate the food security, policy and strategy development and related disciplines in their curriculum.

Identify the institutions in each State that have a potential to become capacity development providers for inservice training will receive due considerations - what type of institutions that may be, and what capacities already exist, will be identified in the plan year.

Educating the general public on food security issues is another essential aspect of moving the change process forward. Mass-media communication channels such as television, radio, websites, and newspapers could be effective capacity building tools to increase awareness and facilitate distance learning. Due considerations will be given in this regard to the FAO distance learning material which focus on various food security issues that include food security data collection and analysis, policy design and analysis, market analysis, nutrition analysis, etc.

Strengthening the policy units in relevant line ministries is another important area that needs due attention for ensuring policy design and analysis and monitoring of implementation of policies. Having a unit with adequate and required capacity is a basis for ensuring sustainability of policy related initiatives.

## **8. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT SUPPORT**

### **8.1 Staffing and Recruitment**

A food security policy officer and a food security analyst will be recruited to support the FSPS activities. In addition, in order to enhance efficiencies of the FSPS in terms of providing logistical support to the State, finance officer and logistic assistant will be recruited on consultancy basis and as outlined in the project document.

### **8.2 Procurement and Logistics**

Light procurement is planned for 2014 under the various components of the programme. Equipment required for building the capacity of partner organizations in the four States will be procured in the coming 2014. A procurement plan detailing the items to be procured and the associated time table will be prepared

Significant consultancy services will also be procured by FSPS during the planning period. The PSU will develop Terms of References (TOR) for the consultancy services and Letter of Agreements for the services to be delivered by partner institutions.

### **8.3 Coordination meetings**

PSU will organize and facilitate the Project Advisory Committee meetings regularly. The PAC is expected to meet three times a year to review and approve work plans and monitor project performance.

PSU/TSU will also organise and attend other relevant committee meetings which are necessary to facilitate project implementation. There are also several coordination meetings with GoS, UN Agencies and NGOS where FSPS presence is required. Therefore, TSU/PSU staff will participate in such key coordination meetings and maintain network with relevant stakeholders.

### **8.4 Planning and Monitoring**

The 2015 workplan will be developed before the end of 2014. Work plan development will be done in an interactive process where partners will be consulted in all phases of the planning process. Support will also be provided for the programme's mid-term evaluation which is planned to be held on September 2014.

Programme progress will be monitored by the PSU staff through field visits and reports from the TSU and partner institutions including FSTS. The PSU will semi-annual and annual reports for submission to the State Governments, EU, and FAO.

Sustainability

## Annex 1: 2014 workplan and timeline

No.	Activity components	Implementation period											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>1</b>	<b>Effective cross-sectoral Food Security institutional setup established and linked to the food security institutional framework</b>												
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Capacity building support to the FSTS</b>												
1.1.1	Technical support through LOA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.1.2	Training on FSIS and policy areas			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
1.1.3	Provide soft and hard wares					X	X	X	X	X			
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Support operations of the FSC based on specific need of each State</b>												
1.2.1	Orientation and awareness raising to the FSC members	X	X	X	X	X							
1.2.2	Facilitate regular FSC meetings			X			X			X			X
1.2.3	Documentation of the FSC meeting outcomes			X			X			X			X
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Strengthening the FSTWGs and support their operationalization</b>												
1.3.1	Technical and facilitation support to the FSTWG meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.3.2	Data and information compilation and analysis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.3.3	Training on IPC to the FSTWG members			X					X				
<b>1.4</b>	<b>Enhance coordination with Federal level institutions</b>												
1.4.1	Backstopping mission and coordination meetings by the FFSTS to the States			X			X				X		X
<b>1.5</b>	<b>Strengthening locality level FSI producing departments/units</b>												
1.5.2	Facilitate nomination of a focal person in the localities	X	X	X	X	X	X						
1.5.3	Conduct assessment and provide light operational support to the FSI units			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.5.4	Trainings on FS basics and FSIS area (data collection and dissemination)			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>1.6</b>	<b>Enhance coordination and linkages with localities</b>												
1.6.1	Regular backstopping mission and coordination meetings by the FSTS to localities			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>2</b>	<b>Government's capacity to review, plan, budget and monitor food security policies and strategies developed, resulting in more effective public action for food security and nutrition.</b>												
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Identification and review of selected food security related policy documents</b>												
2.1.1	Identification and compilation of FS related sector policy documents	X	X	X									
2.1.2	Review and analysis of selected sector policies				X	X	X	X	X				

2.1.3	Consultation/validation workshop											X	X				
<b>2.2</b>	<b><i>Trainings in various areas of policy and strategy development</i></b>																
2.2.1	Identification and delivery of the trainings																
<b>2.3</b>	<b><i>Prepare a comprehensive situation analysis report on the status of food security policies/strategies/programmes in the State</i></b>																
2.3.1	Desk review of secondary data sources on policies and prepare a draft brief report			X	X	X	X	X									
2.3.2	Consultative meetings/workshops for dissemination of the report					X	X										
<b>2.4</b>	<b><i>Food security/sector policy design/formulation as needed</i></b>																
2.4.1	Revision and modification of existing policies									X	X	X					
2.4.2	Design /formulation of new policies											X	X				
2.4.3	Consultative meetings/ workshops													X	X		
2.4.4	Facilitate endorsement by FSC															X	
<b>2.5</b>	<b><i>Establish and coach a policy dialogue forums (PDF)</i></b>																
2.5.1	Identification of stakeholders and preparation of TOR			X													
2.5.2	Facilitate establishment of the PDF through consultations				X	X											
2.5.3	Facilitate periodic PDF meetings and documentations of the PDF meetings						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3</b>	<b><i>Functional regional Food Security information systems strengthened and supports decision making</i></b>																
<b>3.1</b>	<b><i>Market information system</i></b>																
3.1.1	Training and provision of comm. facilities			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.1.2	Data collection and compilation activities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3.2</b>	<b><i>Crop production monitoring</i></b>																
3.2.1	Technical and financial support to seasonal crop assessments									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.2.2	Training on crop assessment methodologies and data analysis (as required)						X	X									
3.3.3	Technical and financial support the CFSAM activities													X	X		
3.3.5	Agro-metrology monitoring support				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3.3</b>	<b><i>Livestock and fisheries production monitoring</i></b>																
3.3.1	Identify and provide support to livestock and fisheries monitoring activities including training			X	X	X	X										
3.3.2	Identify and provide support required for livestock and fisheries database			X	X	X											
3.3.3	Support livestock related studies						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3.4</b>	<b><i>Natural resource monitoring (water, forest, range etc.)</i></b>									X	X	X	X				









