



SESRIC / FAO Webinar on “Enhancing Food Security in OIC Countries: An Overview of the Food Balance Sheet”



24 Nov. 2020 Time: 10:00 - 12:00 (Rome time) or 14:00 – 16:00 (Rome time)
Registration Link: <http://bit.ly/registerWebinar20201124>

Background and Objectives

Large numbers of people are suffering from hunger across the world which is one of the main causes of death in low-income countries and LDCs. Due to undernourishment, children across the globe are exposed to serious health issues, particularly, their physical and cognitive development are adversely affected. This is also a hindering factor on socio-economic development of the least developed OIC countries.

Targets set under the SDG 2 can help reduce or eliminate the negative impacts of hunger, including promotion of universal access to nutritious foods, increasing productivity of food producers, promoting resilient and sustainable practices in agriculture among some others. Based on the recent study of SESRIC titled “Towards the Achievement of Prioritised Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries 2020” (to be launched during the 36th Session of COMCEC), the OIC countries have made stagnant progress in reducing the proportions of people suffering from hunger. Despite the overall positive change between 2000 and 2017, proportion of the undernourished people in total OIC population has been stably increasing since 2011. In this context, increased levels of funding and investment particularly through government funds and international cooperation are expected to streamline productivity of food production.

For the construction of sound and feasible development plans and policies, timely and reliable agricultural statistics undoubtedly play an important role in enhancing the efficient production and distribution of food and agricultural products in OIC countries by strengthening the resilience and standards of their communities and ensuring the food security.

In addressing the aforementioned challenges, annual food balance sheets (FBSs) guide relevant governmental institutions to monitor and analyse the trends in overall national food supply, disclose change in type of food consumed and reveal the extent to which the food supply at the country as a whole is adequate in relation to nutritional requirements. FBSs are useful in making a detailed examination and appraisal at food and agriculture situation in a country. They are also suitable for predicting overall shortages and surpluses in the country.

To strengthen the capacities of national statistical systems of OIC countries, SESRIC, COMCEC and FAO jointly developed a project in 2019 titled “Enhancing Food Security through National Food Balance Sheets” which aims to promote reliable and up-to-date data collection so as to ensure sound analysis of food security situation in the OIC countries. The project includes a physical hands-on training, to be held in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on the compilation and analysis of National FBSs.

Against this background and as a preparation for the abovementioned training to be conducted in 2021, SESRIC and FAO will jointly organise a webinar providing an overview of the Food Balance Sheet on 24 November 2020 with the participation of official statisticians working in either in National Statistical Offices (agricultural statistics section), and Ministries of Agriculture (statistical unit) of the selected OIC countries.

This webinar will cover the following topics:

- General overview of the FBS, including the links with the SDGs;
- Overview of the FBS framework and the new FAO methodology;

EVENT DETAILS

MORNING SESSION OPTION

 **STARTS AT** 24 Nov 2020
10:00

 **ENDS AT** 12 Nov 2020
12:00

AFTERNOON SESSION OPTION

 **STARTS AT** 24 Nov 2020
14:00

 **ENDS AT** 12 Nov 2020
16:00

 **PLATFORM** ZOOM

 **ORGANISER** SESRIC

 **PRESENTER** FAO

 **LANGUAGE** ENGLISH



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Format

- Around 2 hours of webinar via Zoom with presentations.
- The webinar will be conducted in **English** only.
- Opening remarks by Dr. Atilla KARAMAN, Director of Statistics and Information Department at SESRIC and by Mr. Salar TAYYIB, Senior Statistician - Crops, Livestock and Food Statistics (CLFS) Team Leader, FAO.
- Q&A session at the end of each presentation.
- The webinar will be open also to all other NSOs of OIC member countries interested in the subject, including experts from relevant OIC Institutions.

Work Programme

Opening Session <i>Morning Option</i> 10:00 – 10:10 <i>Afternoon Option</i> 14:00 – 14:10	Opening Remarks <i>Dr. Atilla KARAMAN (5 Mins)</i> <i>Director of Statistics and Information Department, SESRIC</i> <i>Mr. Salar Tayyib* / Ms. Nancy Chin** (5 Mins)</i> <i>* Senior Statistician, FAO</i> <i>** Regional Statistician, FAO</i>
Main Session <i>Morning Option</i> 10:10 – 12:00 <i>Afternoon Option</i> 14:10 – 16:00	Introduction to Food Balance Sheets (FBS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Links with the SDGs ○ Overview of the new FAO methodology Presenters: <i>Mr. Tomasz Filipczuk / Ms. Rachele Brivio</i> <i>FBS experts, FAO</i>

* All times are indicated in Rome time. Please refer to https://time.is/compare/1000_24_Nov_2020_in_Rome (morning webinar option) or https://time.is/compare/1400_24_Nov_2020_in_Rome (afternoon webinar option) for time difference information.