Despite progress made, responses to food and nutrition crises in the Sahel and West Africa still lack coherence and co-ordination. Some of the commitments made by stakeholders under the PREGEC Charter are not always respected. Many food and nutrition security (FNS) initiatives overlap, inter-sectoral co-ordination remains weak and there is a general lack of monitoring and evaluation and accountability for results. The second evaluation of the PREGEC Charter pointed out these shortcomings and recommended strengthening the leadership capacity of States and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs).

This new analytical tool for assessing leadership in the governance of food and nutrition security responds to this demand by allowing regular self-assessments by governments and IGOs in order to identify weaknesses and implement corrective measures. The tool questions various areas of FNS governance, particularly the policy environment, the effectiveness of existing frameworks for food crises prevention and management, as well as co-ordination.

Developed within the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA), this tool is the result of an inclusive process carried out in six pilot countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Niger and Senegal). They participated in the formulation process and testing of the tool. The provisional version was shared with RPCA members and validated in December 2019. The rollout of the tool at national level will start in October 2020. Its development benefited from the support of the European Union.
OBJECTIVES

General objective

Strengthen leadership in the governance of food and nutrition security in the 17 countries of the ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS area as well as at the regional level

Specific objectives

- Perform regular self-assessments of the leadership capacities of States and IGOs in FNS governance
- Measure progress and identify shortcomings and corrective measures
- Strengthen the effectiveness of States and IGOs in the implementation of their commitments made under the PREGEC Charter, particularly in terms of steering policies and developing food crisis prevention and management mechanisms.

AREAS OF ANALYSIS

- Policy Environment
- Food and Nutrition Crisis Prevention and Management
- Co-ordination

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS & ACTION PLANS
The evaluation team establishes a dashboard for each analytical cycle to visualise the performance of the three areas of analysis, as well as at the global level. In addition to these performance scores, the dashboard also provides a summary of actions to address the identified shortcomings.
1. **PREPARATION**

- Selection of a resource person to facilitate the process
- Data collection and review of indicators by the resource person
- Establishment of a national committee, including relevant sector-specific departments related to FNS, civil society, and technical and financial partners
- Inception meeting of the national committee, organised by the government institution in charge of the evaluation process

2. **ANALYSIS**

- Overview of the tool
- Composition of three sub-groups
- Evaluation by section
- Feedback, discussion and consensus
- Discussion on available and immediately applicable corrective measures and requests
- Consolidation of the dashboard, measures available with immediately applicable corrective actions and requests
- Preparation of an action plan based on the evaluation grid

3. **FREQUENCY**

The analysis can be conducted:

- **Periodically** (every five years): institutionalised in the evaluation cycles of policies and programmes (NAIP-FNS, RAIP-FNS, PCD-TASAN)
- **Upon request**: without a predefined timeframe (mid-term evaluations, establishment of a baseline in the context of the formulation of a new policy or programme)
4.

**POLICY DIALOGUE**

- Continued inter-sectoral discussion and validation of the action plan and the evaluation grid
- Presentation of the action plan and the evaluation grid to the highest national authority on FNS for endorsement and decisions on further actions to implement and monitor it

**IMPLEMENTATION**

- Implementation of the action plan and monitoring by the government institution in charge of co-ordinating FNS issues
- Support to civil society to carry out oversight, monitoring and advocacy actions

**FACILITATOR**

- A resource person experienced in FNS and in facilitating policy dialogue, operating independently of the different stakeholders in order to lead the process

**PARTICIPANTS**

- Government officials with a certain level of decision-making power in their respective work areas
- Technical and financial partners with decision-making capacity
- Skilled civil society representatives to ensure oversight, monitoring and advocacy

**SCALES**

The analysis can be carried out at sub-national, national and regional levels.

[Link: www.food-security.net]
The Cadre harmonisé analysis provides essential information for the formulation of response plans. It is the reference tool recognised at national, regional and international levels.

Each year, about ten countries in the region draw up national response plans to target support to vulnerable populations. These plans are further strengthened by regional and international support.

Beyond these emergency interventions, the region has several hundreds of programmes and projects dedicated to strengthening food and nutrition security, or to resilience-building more broadly. The multiplication, or in some cases, the overlapping of initiatives underscores the urgent need to strengthen the convergence, co-ordination and alignment of FNS interventions.

Who does what, where, when and how?
This information is essential for conducting policy dialogue with various stakeholders to improve co-ordination and alignment. As part of its support to the RPCA, the Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD) has developed an interactive map of geo-localised FNS and resilience projects and programmes. This database currently contains 550 profiles and continues to grow.

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