

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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GLOBAL  
**FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER**  
*Strengthening Humanitarian Response*





INTRODUCTION	5
SYSTEM-WIDE LEVEL 3 EMERGENCIES	6
● IRAQ	6
● SOUTH SUDAN	7
● YEMEN	8
● WHOLE OF SYRIA	9
SCALED-UP OPERATIONS IN 2016	10
● HAITI	10
● NIGERIA	11
● EL NIÑO/LA NIÑA	12
FOOD SECURITY GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW 2016	13
GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER: PROGRESS AGAINST STRATEGIC RESULTS	14
<b>RESULT 1</b> STRENGTHENED AND DEVELOPED NATIONAL CLUSTERS' CAPACITY	14
CLUSTER COORDINATORS TRAINING	14
IN-COUNTRY/TECHNICAL TRAINING	15
GUIDANCE MATERIALS	15
<b>RESULT 2</b> HARMONIZED AND GLOBALIZED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	16
STANDARDIZED TOOLS AND TEMPLATES	16
TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING	16
gFSC WEBSITE	17
SOCIAL MEDIA	17
COUNTRY CLUSTER PERFORMANCE MONITORING	17
<b>RESULT 3</b> IMPROVED OPERATIONAL AND SURGE SUPPORT TO NATIONAL CLUSTERS	18
DEPLOYMENTS AND SURGE SUPPORT	18
GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER ROSTER	21
<b>RESULT 4</b> SCALED-UP ADVOCACY, COMMUNICATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION	22
ADVOCACY	22
COMMUNICATION	23
RESOURCE MOBILIZATION	25
<b>RESULT 5</b> DEEPENED AND DIVERSIFIED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND OPERATIONAL COLLABORATIONS	26
INTER-CLUSTER COLLABORATION AND IASC	26
COLLABORATION WITH THE IPC GLOBAL SUPPORT UNIT	26
COLLABORATION WITH GLOBAL PARTNERS	27
<b>RESULT 6</b> SYSTEMATIZED LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE-MANAGEMENT PROCESSES	28
WORKING GROUPS	28
CLUSTER COORDINATORS RETREAT	30
WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT	32
THE GFSC 2016 IN REVIEW	33
FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2016	34
VOICES FROM THE FIELD AND VOICES FROM PARTNERS	35
GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER PARTNERS, OBSERVERS, ASSOCIATES AND CONTRIBUTORS	37
ACRONYMS	38

# CONTENTS

Cover  
Photo: FAO/Danfong Dennis

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# Introduction

*The annual report is a global Food Security Cluster accountability product that must be read in conjunction with the evolving global humanitarian environment.*

In 2014, the Joint FAO/WFP Evaluation of the Food Security Cluster Coordination was endorsed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Programme Committee and the World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Board, recommendations of which formed the backbone of the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) Strategic Plan 2015–2016.

Two years later, in 2016, the follow-up of the recommendations and Strategic Plan 2015–2016 revealed progress and impacts with regard to a number of aspects. One of the impacts was a more robust roster maintenance that led to quick and longer-term deployments of Cluster Coordinators and Information Management Officers (IMOs) in the countries. This ensured more effective coordination solutions. Another impact was more predictable funding, resulting in more stable cluster coordination teams at both global and country levels. An additional achievement was a more systematic support to country food security clusters and an increased leadership role played by governments in coordination, particularly in sudden-onset crises.

The annual report 2016 is one additional product of the global Food Security Cluster's accountability towards its global partners and donors, whereby achievements against each of the six results of the Strategic Plan are presented qualitatively and quantitatively.

The humanitarian context in which gFSC and country clusters operated remained challenging. In 2016, 92 million people were targeted through country and regional coordinated humanitarian appeals, including 78 million in need of food security interventions. They were farmers, agropastoralists, pastoralists, urban dwellers, internally displaced people (IDPs) and refugees, among which 51 percent were women. All of them were affected by conflicts, economic crises and natural hazards, and they faced incredible challenges to buy or produce food and could not meet minimum food intake requirements. For the people in need, food assistance and productive livelihoods-based interventions were an absolute necessity. By end-year 2016, US\$4.67 billion was allocated by donors to address food security needs. This corresponds to 61 percent of the funding requirement. In other words, three out of five food insecure people were assisted in 2016.

In 2016, the system-wide Level 3 emergency was prolonged in Iraq, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. El Niño resulted in large-scale emergencies in Ethiopia and Madagascar, while Hurricane Matthew devastated coastal areas in the north-west, south-west and south of Haiti. In Nigeria, a famine-like situation occurred between April and August in some IDP enclaves (Bama and Banki towns) and in other nearby inaccessible areas of Borno State. Despite government and partners' efforts to assist the population in need, an elevated risk of famine persists in inaccessible areas of Borno State.

Over the past twelve months, the global Food Security Cluster provided coordination solutions to 30 countries plus the Pacific region (14 additional countries), wherever possible, in support of existing government-led mechanisms. This is a 12 percent increase compared with 2015. Responding to coordination needs at the country level in an efficient and timely manner was made possible thanks to donors' support to Cluster Lead Agencies (WFP and FAO), as well as to international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who acted as cluster co-chairs in ten countries or operated as stand-by partners.

At the global level, international NGOs further enhanced their support to the global Food Security Cluster through staff secondments, their engagement in the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), acting as chair of working groups or the direct financing of activities. Secondments were provided by CashCap, GenCap, Norwegian Refugee Council's expert deployment capacity, Samaritan's Purse, and Welthungerhilfe. The SAG members include Action Against Hunger, Welthungerhilfe, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The Federal German Agency Technisches Hilfswerk hosted one training for Information Management Officers and one for Cluster Coordinators with the support of the German Government.

Finally, the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, was the opportunity for the global community to assume its shared responsibility to save lives, alleviate suffering and preserve human dignity. People were put at the centre of humanitarian action, and local actors' role as first responders was acknowledged.



# IRAQ

Iraq has been facing a complex and growing humanitarian crisis for many years, and in 2016 over 10 million people needed some form of humanitarian assistance. Access to the most vulnerable people remained a key challenge. The Food Security Cluster determined that some 2.4 million people were in need, and partners developed a plan to target 1.5 million people, the largest proportion being IDPs (700,000). Assistance was organized in three tiers, and the Food Security Cluster made great effort to deliver assistance through a sequenced response: emergency assistance largely through food/cash distributions; focused livelihoods assistance; and, finally, agricultural support in productive areas. The need for emergency activities was the highest in Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kirkuk and Salah al-Din governorates, as well as in southern Ninewa; and in areas of Iraq where displacement is protracted, the first-line response provides life-saving food assistance (through in kind, cash or vouchers) to the most vulnerable displaced people engaged in severe, intense and irreversible coping strategies.

**Mosul flash appeal:** The Food Security Cluster works to ensure that the most vulnerable food

insecure families have access to essential food and livelihoods support by providing emergency ready-to-eat rations to people fleeing conflict, and dry food rations, cash assistance and vouchers to people once they reach a stable location; supporting the re-establishment of agricultural livelihood and livestock assets; and facilitating the resumption, maintenance and diversification of key agricultural production systems and strategies in safe and stable areas.

## To get ready for Mosul, food security partners:

- Pre-positioned ready-to-eat food rations in strategic locations. Stocks, including immediate response rations and family food rations, are being pre-positioned for rapid distribution to families on the move through the Rapid Response Mechanism and in areas where displaced families are likely to flee.
- Prepared channels to distribute food in high-priority areas. National NGOs were identified in hard-to-reach areas where large-scale displacement is likely to occur; training was provided to help these front-line partners strengthen their emergency capabilities.

### NB. OF PARTNERS INT./NAT.

**38**

partners (20 international NGOs, 16 national NGOs and 2 United Nations agencies)

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

**239 MIL.**

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
**111 MIL.**



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
**128 MIL.**

### PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

46%

### PEOPLE IN NEED (HRP)

**2.4 MIL.**

51% men

49% women

### PEOPLE TARGETED

**1.5 MIL.**

### PEOPLE REACHED

**1.3 MIL.**

### COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

The cluster is comprised of a National Cluster Coordinator, a subnational Cluster Coordinator, an Information Management Officer (for six months through a deployment arrangement with Samaritan's Purse), an Accountability to Affected Populations Officer, and a GIS Officer.



Photo: WFP/Mohammed Al Bahbahani

# SOUTH SUDAN



Photo: FAO/UNHCR/Alberto Gonzalez Farr

Seeds distribution in Doro refugee camp, in Maban, South Sudan

In 2017, food security in South Sudan is likely to deteriorate to unprecedented levels, with thousands of people at risk of famine. At the height of the lean season in July 2016, some 4.8 million people – more than one in every three people in South Sudan – were estimated to be severely food insecure. In the last quarter of 2016 and following the harvest, partners estimated that about 3.7 million people were food insecure (representing an increase of one million people compared with the same period in 2015), and food security experts warned that the benefits of the harvest would be short lived. It is projected that some 5 million people will be in urgent need of food security and livelihoods support during

the lean season in 2017.

In 2016, about 80 partners delivered assistance to over 4 million people throughout South Sudan despite all of the security and logistical challenges that prevailed. The cluster also made significant investments in streamlining food security assessments and market monitoring by ensuring all information gaps covered through partners in national assessments (Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System – FSNMS). The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster trained more than twenty partner organizations, half of which were national NGOs, on the implementation and management of cash-based transfers.

## Accountability to Affected Populations in South Sudan

The South Sudan Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC) reaffirms its commitment to the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) commitments, as outlined by the Inter Agency-Standing Committee (IASC) adopted in 2011: (1) leadership and governance; (2) transparency; (3) feedback and complaints; (4) participation; and (5) design, monitoring and evaluation.

The aim of mainstreaming these commitments includes, but is not limited to:

- improve FSLC partners engagement with the affected populations in decisions that affect them through meaningful participation;
- share programme information with targeted beneficiaries in order to promote transparency;
- provide affected populations with channels through which concerns can be raised and addressed; and
- ensure that partner staff are provided with skills and competencies to operationalize the commitments in food security programming.

The South Sudan FSLC conducted a Baseline Survey on Accountability to Affected Populations from March to April 2016. Forty-five partners of the cluster responded to the survey. The questionnaire was administered electronically. It was designed based on the five commitments of the IASC.

The objective of the baseline survey was:

- to ascertain the status of AAP among the South Sudan FSLC membership; and
- to provide the partners with a tool and an opportunity to assess their compliance with Commitments to Accountability to Affected Populations.



L3 EMERGENCY COUNTRY

### NB. OF PARTNERS INT./NAT.

**64**

partners (27 international NGOs, 35 national NGOs and 2 United Nations agencies)

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

**429 MIL.**

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
**326 MIL.**



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
**103 MIL.**

### PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

76%

### PEOPLE IN NEED (HRP)

**4.8 MIL.**

51% men

49% women

### PEOPLE TARGETED

**4.8 MIL.**

according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), May–July 2016

### PEOPLE REACHED

**4.2 MIL.**

### COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC) is comprised of a Cluster Coordinator, a NGO Co-Coordinator (World Vision International) and two Information Management Officers. In 2016, gFSC provided tremendous support to South Sudan through the deployment of a Cluster Coordinator on surge for over four months.



# YEMEN

In 2016, an estimated 14.1 million Yemenis were food insecure, including 7 million who were severely insecure. The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) thus responded to the severe situation through emergency food assistance, livelihoods assistance, and livelihoods restoration. Through food assistance, including general food distribution and cash or voucher transfers, 3.8 million people were reached. Emergency livelihoods assistance, including agricultural inputs (e.g. seeds, tools and fertilizer), fisheries (e.g. nets, boat engines) and livestock inputs (e.g. mass vaccinations, distribution of feed/concentrate, mineral blocks), was provided to 484,000 people, whereas 45,000 Yemenis received support on livelihoods restoration through income-generating activities, conditional cash for assets for rehabilitation of destroyed agricultural assets (e.g. irrigation canals, wells), livelihoods skills development, vocational training, and longer-term assets support.

The FSAC and its partners faced several challenges related to the funding gap of US\$318.6, which corresponds to 43 percent of the total funding required (US\$746 million). This has resulted in huge unmet needs and response gaps across all governorates in the country, in particular with regard to those experiencing a

food insecurity level of emergency (7 million), which is highly alarming due to the deteriorating food security and nutrition situation. Yemen has currently faced an unprecedented liquidity crisis, which posed major challenges to partners' cash and voucher activities. The escalation of the conflict in certain governorates has made it very challenging to reach certain vulnerable groups requiring urgent assistance. In addition, bureaucratic impediments and complex clearance mechanisms were hindering access, movement and/or activities in some governorates. Cluster partners also experienced significant delays in berthing vessels delivering humanitarian cargo in the seaports (Hudaydah/Saleef ports) due to port congestion and lack of clearances. However, the difficulty in access has led to unique ways of responding to the crisis. Examples for this are related to monitoring programmes through diverse tools such as WFP's Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) that facilitates the collection of real-time household food security data through mobile technology or remote monitoring and evaluation. FAO, WFP and other FSAC partners also outsourced their programme monitoring to third parties, such as a private company with local knowledge, access and a wide network of monitors.

## NB. OF PARTNERS INT./NAT.

**63**

partners (19 international NGOs, 40 national NGOs and 4 United Nations agencies)

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

**746 MIL.**

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
**427 MIL.**



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
**319 MIL.**

## PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

57%

## PEOPLE IN NEED (HRP)

**14.1 MIL.**

51% men



49% women



## PEOPLE TARGETED

**7.9 MIL.** (7 million for food assistance; 700,000 for livelihoods assistance; and 200,000 for livelihoods restoration)

## PEOPLE REACHED

**3.8 MIL.**

FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE

**+484,000**

FOR LIVELIHOODS ASSISTANCE

**+45,000**

FOR LIVELIHOODS ASSETS SUPPORT

## COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

The cluster is comprised of a Cluster Coordinator and an Information Management Officer.



Photo: WFP/Amman Bamatraf



# WHOLE OF SYRIA

The Food Security Cluster/Sector Whole of Syria has undergone various transitions to meet the needs of people related to access and food security since its inception in early 2015. Currently, the Whole of Syria food security interventions are coordinated through three formal hubs (South Turkey – Gaziantep and Antakya; Syria – Damascus; and Jordan – Amman) and two informal hubs (Iraq and Lebanon). The major challenge to providing assistance has been reaching out to the people in need due to the persistence of conflicts, insecurity and limited access granted to the humanitarian communities by the authorities. The establishment of the Whole of Syria cluster coordination approach has proven effective for ensuring a more coordinated response and information flow that helped addressing some of the constraints for reaching the people in need. The sector activities include both food assistance and livelihoods and agriculture-related interventions.

In 2016, 5,737,682 people in need were supported through food assistance on a monthly basis, out of which 5,529,382 people received food (in kind) on average per month, and 222,404 people received food through cash-based transfers in the areas with a functioning market. Livelihood and agriculture activities reached a total of 2,030,578 people in need. Sixty-three partners were engaged in food assistance and thirty-five in livelihood and agriculture. A challenge the sector had to face was the lack of consistency in estimating the people in need through a more standardized approach, such as the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification.

To highlight a few key achievements: the Food Security Sector developed key guidance for

partners to assess food security through common indicators; it has also provided guidance on geographical targeting, household selection criteria as well as response packages for all sector activities aligned with the 2016 and 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The sector conducted capacity-building through a range of initiatives, such as training on nutrition-sensitive agriculture for 20 partners; food security concepts including the visualization/Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capacity for 23 partners; and IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action (GBV) training with support from the UNFPA/GBV subsector for eight partners. It also supported emergency response capacity by reviewing a proposal on development and implementation through the Humanitarian Pooled Funds to 23 partners across all hubs, including 12 Syrian NGOs, and disseminated various sectoral resources, training opportunities and normative guidance. Finally, the sector conducted cross-learning initiatives on lessons learned, gender and AAP.



Photo: WFP/Hussam Al Saleh

## Global Food Security Cluster Field Mission on Gender, Age and Accountability to Affected Populations

A number of general findings revealed that:

- Women-headed households have increased as a result of men seeking asylum or who enrol in military service or armed groups, and the impossibility for men to work the land, who therefore leave to look for work elsewhere.
- In some parts of the country, socio-cultural norms are said to have changed to more conservative ones that are being enforced by armed groups, especially those that relate to women's mobility, dress code, education and occupations, with increasing religious conservatism in rural as well as in urban areas.
- Local partners' opinion was that there is a need to shift from food assistance wherever possible to livelihood interventions, or a mix of both where necessary, in order to reduce a growing culture of dependency and to "empower" women and men to generate their own income and to rehabilitate the agricultural lands that are not cultivated for economic reasons



L3 EMERGENCY COUNTRY

### NB. OF PARTNERS INT./NAT.

**63**

63 partners are engaged in food assistance (28 international NGOs and United Nations; 35 local NGOs), and 35 in livelihood and agriculture (15 international NGOs and United Nations; 20 local NGOs)

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

**1.2 BIL.**

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
**524 MIL.**



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
**715 MIL.**

### PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

44%

### PEOPLE IN NEED (HRP)

**8.7 MIL.**

51% men



49% women



### PEOPLE TARGETED

**7.5 MIL.** for food assistance (6.3 million through monthly assistance and 1.2 million through emergency assistance)  
**AND 4.3 MIL.** targeted for agriculture/livelihood assistance

### PEOPLE REACHED

**5.7 MIL.** with food assistance (5.6 million through monthly and 900,000 through emergency assistance)  
**AND 2.4 MIL.** with livelihood and agriculture activities

### COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

- Whole of Syria Sector Co-Coordinator and Jordan Hub Sector Co-Coordinator
- Whole of Syria Sector Co-Coordinator (Mercy Corps)
- Syria Hub Sector Co-Coordinator
- Turkey Hub Cluster Co-Coordinator
- Jordan Hub Sector Coordinator
- Whole of Syria and Jordan Hub Sectors IMO
- 2 Syria Hub Sector IMOs



All the numbers below are based on the Flash Appeal for Hurricane Matthew (October–December 2016)

#### NB. OF PARTNERS INT./NAT.



#### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

139 MIL.

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
86.5 MIL.



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
52.5 MIL.

#### PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

62%

#### PEOPLE IN NEED

800,000

PEOPLE TARGETED

750,000

#### COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

Coordination led by the Government of Haiti (Coordination Nationale de la Sécurité Alimentaire) with support from WFP and FAO. A Cluster Coordinator was deployed on surge in the aftermath of the hurricane in order to help Cluster Lead Agencies in the support they provide to the Government of Haiti. Information management was provided from the gFSC Headquarters in Rome.

# HAITI

On 3 October 2016, Hurricane Matthew – a hurricane with a category 4 – hit Haiti, devastated its south-west, and further worsened people's vulnerability. Approximately 130,000 tons of food from annual crops were destroyed in the fields and in stock, and heavy losses to the livestock and fishery sectors were identified. The irrigation infrastructure of around 16,000 hectares of agricultural lands and 4,000 kilometres of rural roads were damaged. Production, stocking and processing facilities (mills, milk processing units and silos) were severely damaged, and the livestock that survived suffers from lack of feed and pastures, or bad health conditions. Fishers were impacted by the loss of all their equipment, including boats, engines and fishing nets. In the aftermath of the hurricane, around 1.3 million people (15 percent of the entire population) were in need of humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs, rural households in particular. Considering the deterioration of Haiti's food security situation during the past years – slow rehabilitation from the earthquake in 2010, a poor economy resulting from political unrest, climate effects of El Niño, to only mention

a few – the humanitarian needs contained short-term food and cash assistance as well as medium-term rehabilitation of livelihoods. The most vulnerable households need to restore agricultural, livestock and fishery activities through agricultural inputs, restocking of livestock, veterinary care for sick animals, and fishing equipment. Community-based production assets and infrastructure damaged by the disaster need to be rehabilitated, such as agricultural lands, irrigation canals, infrastructure for fish processing and selling, rural markets and roads, stock infrastructure or silos, community infrastructure for milk collection, and transformation units. Farmers' associations require support for the production and supply of seeds and planting material for food crops, fruit/agroforestry and forestry trees. In addition, vulnerable households and institutions need to enhance their resilience through capacity strengthening in disaster-risk reduction, improved agricultural practices, community contingency shocks and credit schemes (e.g. caisse de résilience), the promotion of community-based disaster-risk management and climate-change adaptation plans.



Local farmers sorting *Cajanus cajan*, a fast-growing, disease-resistant bean seed, for a post-disaster seed reserve.

# NIGERIA



Photo: Good Way Mission International/Reverend Titus Pona

Food assistance to internally displaced women-headed households.

The Boko Haram insurgency has been ongoing in northeastern Nigeria since 2009, spreading to bordering countries (Niger, Chad and Cameroon) and causing the displacement of 3.6 million people, of which 82 percent in Nigeria alone. Although the conflict is reported to be declining, a number of attacks against civilians and humanitarian actors have been registered in 2016 in northeastern Nigeria, the Diffa region in Niger, and northern Cameroon.

Insecurity and displacement have had negative effects on the food security situation of populations in the Lake Chad Basin by disrupting markets, negatively impacting agricultural production, and eroding livelihoods. In northeastern Nigeria, a recent FEWS NET Integrated Food Security Phase Classification compatible analysis reports that a famine likely occurred from April to August in some

IDP enclaves and other inaccessible areas, and that there is an elevated likelihood of famine persisting in areas where humanitarian access is limited or irregular. According to the latest Cadre Harmonisé analysis (October 2016), 4.6 million people are severely food insecure (phases 3 to 5) in the three most affected states, and this figure is foreseen to reach 5.1 million by August 2017.

Although humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations in northeastern Nigeria has been considerably scaled up during 2016, humanitarian actors are still confronted with major access limitations and dependency on military escorts and helicopter services to deliver aid. In many inaccessible areas of northeastern Nigeria, insecurity is preventing the delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations that rely almost completely on it.



FURTHER CRISES MONITORED

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)

157.6 MIL.

TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED (USD)  
69 MIL.



TOTAL GAP (USD)  
88 MIL.

## PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

44%

## PEOPLE IN NEED

3.9 MIL.

## PEOPLE TARGETED

1.5 MIL.

## PEOPLE REACHED

1.57 MIL.

104.5%

## COUNTRY CLUSTER TEAM

The cluster comprises a Cluster Coordinator and two Information Management Officers (including through iMMAP secondment). In 2016, gFSC conducted four support missions to Nigeria.



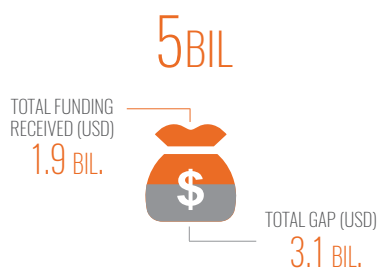
# EL NIÑO/LA NIÑA

Over 60 million people have been impacted by 18 months of unfavourable climatic conditions caused by El Niño, which destroyed several crop seasons and decimated livestock in eastern Africa, the Southern African Development Community Region, and Corredor Seco. Thirty-three countries have been affected, including 14 considered as high response priority, and 19 countries facing moderate impact. The total amount needed by governments, aid agencies and partners to address urgent El Niño-linked humanitarian needs globally in 2016 is

at US\$5 billion. By end 2016, US\$1.9 billion was raised, leaving a funding gap of US\$3.1 billion. Although this El Niño climate event has officially concluded, the danger has not passed. Food insecurity linked to crop failure and drought is not expected to peak until well into 2017.

The global Food Security Cluster has been involved in the following advocacy publications, events and coordination in 2016 to support El Niño/La Niña emergency response.

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (USD)



## PERCENTAGE RECEIVED (USD)

38%

## PEOPLE IN NEED



- 33 countries affected (14 considered high response priority and 19 moderate priority)

### Global events:

**17 March 2016**  
*Rome*

#### El Niño: Impacts and Priorities for Action

FAO, WFP, IFAD and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) hosted a one-day meeting on “El Niño Impacts and Priorities for Action”. The four co-organizing agencies agreed that while humanitarian actors and national governments were already responding, further urgent actions needed to be taken immediately to combat the impact of the current El Niño event while also laying a firm platform for more effective response to similar events in the future.

**6, 7 July 2016**  
*Rome*

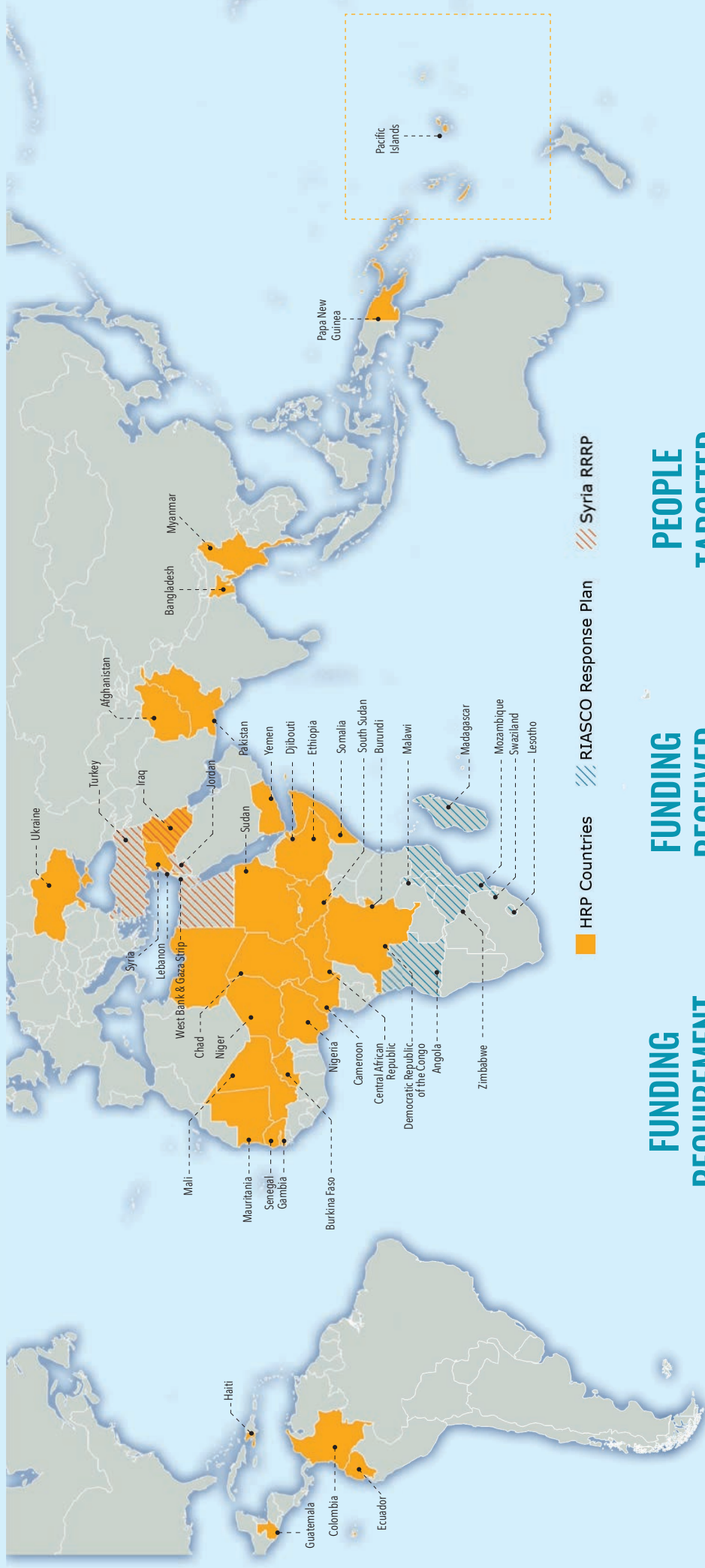
#### El Niño and La Niña: Impacts and Priorities for Action in Africa and Asia and the Pacific

The meeting with the Rome-based United Nations agencies (FAO, WFP and IFAD) provided an overview of the impact of the 2015–2016 El Niño on agriculture and food security and nutrition in east and southern Africa and in Asia and the Pacific and highlighted critical resource requirements. Looking ahead to La Niña, the event provided an opportunity to reach a shared understanding of key early actions that could reduce negative impacts and capitalize on potential positive ones arising from this phenomenon.

### Global Food Security Cluster publications:

<b>29 January 2016</b>	El Niño Overview
<b>10 February 2016</b>	FSC Partner Preparedness and Response to El Niño
<b>15 March 2016</b>	2015–2016 El Niño: WFP and FAO Overview
<b>15 March 2016</b>	El Niño: Food Security Cluster Partner Preparedness and Response
<b>21 April 2016</b>	2015–2016 El Niño: WFP and FAO Overview
<b>14 July 2016</b>	2016–2017 ENSO Overview

# FOOD SECURITY GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW 2016



**FUNDING  
REQUIREMENT**

**\$8.3  
BIL**

**FUNDING  
RECEIVED**

**\$4.7  
BIL**

**PEOPLE  
TARGETED**

**78  
MIL**

# Global Food Security Cluster: progress against strategic results

Strengthening the capacity of national clusters through tailor-made training continued to remain one of the major activities of gFSC in 2016.

## 1 STRENGTHENED AND DEVELOPED NATIONAL CLUSTERS' CAPACITY

### CLUSTER COORDINATORS TRAINING

A total of 46 persons were trained through two training events. The first one was held in Stuttgart, Germany, and the second one in Dakar, Senegal. For the first time, gFSC organized a training event in French with the participants from francophone countries. The training participants came from partner NGOs (Welthungerhilfe, Action Contre La Faim, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development); gFSC stand-by partners (Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, RedR Australia); and the Cluster Lead Agencies (FAO, WFP). A total of 28 people were kept in the roster and 26 were deployed out of that roster during 2016.

The two simulation-based one-week Cluster Coordinator training helped gFSC prepare a pool of competent Food Security Cluster Coordinators with the required core competencies, specifically the required leadership and coordination skills. The trainings provided participants with an excellent opportunity to better understand their roles and responsibilities before, during and after a Level 3 emergency following the Humanitarian

Programme Cycle (HPC) through a real-time Level 3 emergency simulation exercise, to practice the key roles and responsibilities and experience what actually entails, and what attitudes, knowledge and skills are most helpful to best undertake the roles and responsibilities in a real emergency or disaster situation. The trainings also had a "level of readiness assessment" component carried out through a one-on-one feedback session at the end of the exercise, which informed the gFSC about participants' readiness for deployment to IASC Level 3 emergency and helped identify other potential candidates that could join the roster of deployable people for Level 2 and Level 3 emergencies and preparedness. Throughout the process, participants received feedback on management skills as well as technical and coordination performance. The participants were asked to provide their feedback on the training content at the end of the training; about 90 percent rated the training as extremely useful and excellent, and the rest confirmed it as good. Facilitators were rated as competent and effective.

#### Cluster Coordinator training, 13–17 December, Dakar

The Cluster Coordinator Training helped me understand how I can be better prepared for potential sudden outbreak of violence and real humanitarian crisis in Burundi. Before the training, I had a limited overview of the role and responsibilities of each stakeholder within and in relation with the cluster, mainly the IMO, the Government and the FAO/WFP representatives. As sector group/cluster coordinators, we depend on the information our partners provide us with in order to take the right decisions at the right moment. We need to build a common understanding of the situation the population we are accountable to is facing. We must acknowledge our interdependency and the added value of coordination for an efficient response. Now, I know in more detail how I can involve partners, humanitarian as well as development ones, both in data collection, analysis, emergency preparedness, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the activities prioritized. As Food Security Sector stakeholders, our action should always be driven by our engagement to act quickly to save life and our accountability towards the people in need, taking into account the protection mainstreaming concepts.

*Reine Anani, FAO Food Security Sector Co-Coordinator, Burundi*

## CROSS-CUTTING DIMENSIONS

The understanding and mainstreaming of all key cross-cutting dimensions in the Food Security Cluster were the objectives of both Cluster Coordinator trainings. The gFSC GenCap Adviser and a WFP AAP/Protection Adviser presented best practices on how clusters should mainstream AAP, gender and protection in their programmes during the trainings in Stuttgart and Dakar. A specific session on cash transfer programming (CTP) and coordination was delivered by a WFP cash expert in Dakar with the aim to enhance the technical skills and understanding of CTP of Cluster Coordinators. This module will be further refined and more systematically included in all Cluster Coordinator trainings.

## IN-COUNTRY/TECHNICAL TRAINING

The gFSC and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Global Support Unit partnered to hold an IPC Level 1 training workshop for Food Security Cluster Coordinators from 5 to 8 December in Rome. The IPC is one of the main tools for the country clusters/sectors to inform food security response plans. In many countries where IPC is used, the analysis provided is integrated in the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

With the accelerating adoption of the IPC around the world, there is a growing demand for IPC experts with demonstrated knowledge of the IPC approach and tools, and the Food Security Cluster has a clear role to play in the IPC analysis process. That is why more than 20 Food Security Cluster Coordinators, Co-Coordiators and Information Management Officers were trained on the tool. By participating at least to one IPC analysis in their respective country, they will complete their Level 1 certification.

### IPC training, 5–8 December, Rome

“The IPC has been used in Afghanistan since 2012 to identify the most food insecure people in the country. This year we managed the timing and quality of the IPC analysis very well and its results provided the right information for the humanitarian needs overview for 2017. The IPC training helped me as a Cluster Coordinator to understand even better how the findings of the analysis can contribute to take the right decisions to understand and improve food insecurity in the country in the future.”

*Abdul Majid Khan, Cluster Coordinator, Afghanistan*

## GUIDANCE MATERIALS

Based on specific country cluster needs, a CashCap expert was seconded for three months to the gFSC to develop a capacity-building package for Cluster Coordinators, including a checklist on cash transfers and a series of related webinars discussing technical issues around cash and market-based programming.

The gFSC Urban Working Group and the IASC Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas Reference Group jointly developed a

“Guidance for Improving Coordination and Responses to Urban Crises in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle through the IASC and the Cluster System”. The guidelines suggest minimum and practical steps and approaches throughout the Humanitarian Programme Cycle to strengthen coordination efforts in emergencies affecting urban settings. The guidelines were finalized in December 2016, and will be launched and rolled out in country clusters in early 2017.

## 2

HARMONIZED  
AND GLOBALIZED  
INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

*Information management is one of the core Food Security Cluster functions and the basis for decision-making at both country and global levels.*

## STANDARDIZED TOOLS AND TEMPLATES

Food Security Cluster (FSC) Information Management (IM) involves collecting, analysing and sharing information through high-quality products designed to assist cluster partners in making programmatic, evidence-based and strategic decisions regarding aspects of a humanitarian crisis. Additionally, FSC IM informs stakeholders about the work of cluster partners and can serve as a strong advocacy tool. In order to improve the production at the country level of FSC IM products, in terms of both quantity and quality, the global IM team undertook a review of the “minimum operational reporting requirements”. This process led to the identification of minimum reporting requirements, the creation

of a set of standard reporting templates for the Information Management Officers (IMOs) to use at the country level, and culminated with the development and execution of IM trainings for cluster staff, stand-by partners and Cluster Lead Agencies colleagues. During the reporting period, the gFSC developed the first edition of the “FSC IM Compendium”, which includes a menu of standardized templates, style guidance and product templates for use at the country level. The gFSC IM team now includes a GIS specialist and a graphic designer who are largely focused on supporting country clusters with developing and editing their country infographics on a continuous basis.

## TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING

The FSC IM Compendium was supplemented with two IMO trainings, with the purpose of ensuring that FSC IMOs are equipped with the capacity and knowledge to fulfil their professional role, and to train other suitable candidates from partners to contribute to the pool of deployable IMOs. The agenda of the trainings was structured to reflect the skills and processes required for FSC IMOs to deliver high-quality IM products. Overall, 42 people participated in the trainings (19 in Stuttgart and 23 in Rome). Of these, 21 were working with the FSC at the country level; 10 from the FSC Cluster Lead Agencies (8 from WFP and 2 from FAO); 8 from stand-by partners (3 from the

Norwegian Refugee Council’s expert deployment capacity, 2 from Samaritan’s Purse, and 1 each from RedR, CANADEM and Crisis Management Centre Finland). There was also one participant from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and two from the Logistics Cluster.

In addition to the direct support to countries, the IM team is well represented and engaged in the IASC Information Management Working Group (IMWG). The IMWG meets on a monthly basis to review guidance and protocols for humanitarian IM reporting. The most important effort for 2016 was finalizing the profiling of global IMOs

across most clusters in order to understand what skills and capacities are required. This information will help the field progress collectively, particularly as we often work through stand-by partners for emergency deployments. The next phase of this work will be to develop an inter-agency IM training.

*Food Security Cluster Information Management Training participants in Stuttgart, Germany.*



Photo: THW



## gFSC WEBSITE

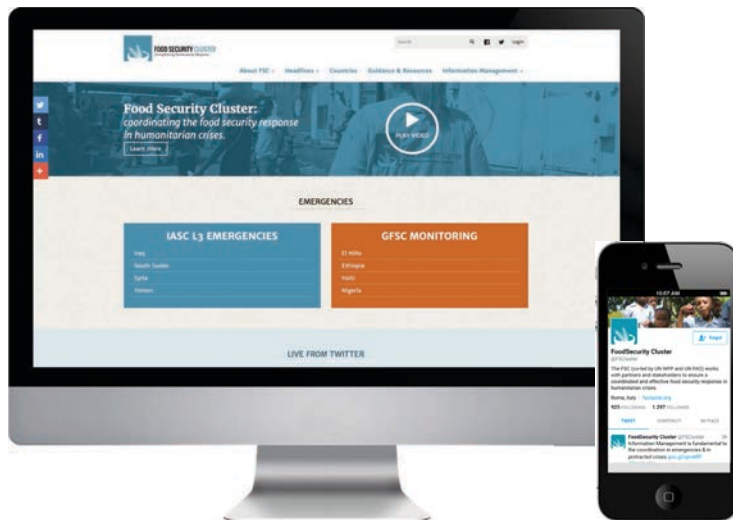
The FSC website, foodsecuritycluster.net, has existed since 2013, but was revamped in 2016 based on user feedback from country clusters and partners received in 2015. The new structure and look entailed a tremendous increase in website users and website visits. In 2016, a total of 451,606 users visited the FSC website, representing a thirteen-fold increase in usage from 2015. Website views also quadrupled in 2016 as compared with 2015 and reached over 600,000 views. The

website includes both global and country cluster information, such as meeting minutes, country dashboards, partner presence maps, newsletters, tools, guidance material, and information on current events and activities. In addition, the global Food Security Cluster developed and distributed website guidelines for the country pages on the FSC website. This helped the country cluster colleagues to individually update information on the respective country pages.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The global Food Security Cluster's social media activities focus on expanding the use of Twitter as a communication tool to quickly share information with partners on humanitarian crises and response. The FSC Twitter account reached 1,202 followers in 2016, with an increase of almost one follower per day compared with

2015. The total number of tweets went up to 1,722, which is an average of two tweets per day in 2016. During the course of 2016, FSC profile visits increased significantly and almost quadrupled by the end of the year. This shows that Twitter activities were appreciated by both partners and external followers.



## COUNTRY CLUSTER PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) is a self-assessment exercise. Clusters assess their performance against the six core cluster functions: (1) service delivery; (2) informing strategic Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Country Team decision-making; (3) planning and strategic development; (4) monitoring and reporting; (5) contingency planning and preparedness; and (6) advocacy and accountability to affected populations. It is a country-led process that is supported globally to assess whether the cluster is an efficient and effective coordination mechanism. The process

enables all cluster partners and coordinators to identify strengths and weaknesses of the performance and paths to improvement. The CCPM should ideally be implemented by all clusters three to six months after the onset of an emergency and annually thereafter. In protracted crises, the recommendation is, for all clusters, to complete a CCPM annually.

In 2016, the CCPM reports were generated for 11 country clusters, including Afghanistan, Central African Republic CAR, Chad, Colombia, Danish Refugee Council, Iraq, Mali, Sudan, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Whole of Syria.

## 3 IMPROVED OPERATIONAL AND SURGE SUPPORT TO NATIONAL CLUSTERS

*The global Food Security Cluster provides operational and surge support to country-level Food Security Clusters in order to promote an effective response to humanitarian crises by enabling the timely deployment of coordination teams.*

### DEPLOYMENTS AND SURGE SUPPORT

Ensuring effective and timely deployments of Cluster Coordinators and Information Management Officers to country clusters has been a priority for the gFSC, drawing on its own capacity, the gFSC roster, stand-by-partners, global partners and Cluster Lead Agencies' pools of experts. With the aim of enhancing the quality of coordination and programming, surge support on specific issues has been provided by GenCap and CashCap expertise. In 2016, gFSC conducted, in total, 19 surge and support missions in eight countries, with an average duration of 17 days. These missions included surge in case of sudden-onset crisis such as

Haiti (Hurricane Matthew), coordination backstopping (South Sudan, Nigeria, Chad, Mali, Pacific Islands, Whole of Syria), information management (Nigeria), Inter-Agency (Ukraine, Somalia), and scoping missions (Burundi, Madagascar).

In addition, the global support team facilitated 30 deployments to country-level clusters through the gFSC roster, the stand-by-partners and global partners, with an average duration of 170 days each. These deployments included: 17 Cluster Coordinators, 11 Information Management Officers and 2 cash experts. Twenty percent of the staff deployed in 2016 were women.

These deployments could not have happened without the continuous support from the global Food Security Cluster's

#### STAND-BY PARTNERS:



#### SPECIAL ARRANGMENTS:



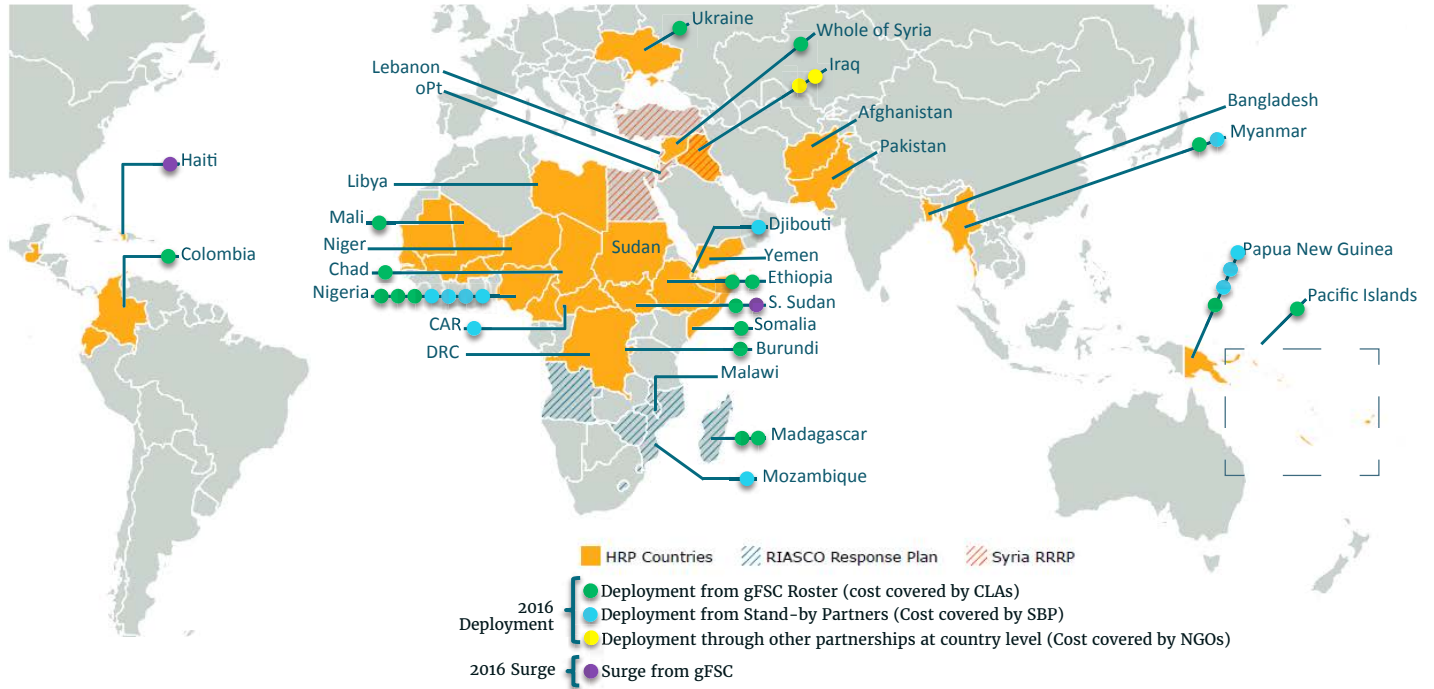


The global Food Security Cluster meets with IDPs in Maiduguri, Nigeria, to hear their voices from fleeing from Boko Haram.

## THE TABLE AND MAP BELOW SUMMARIZE THE DATA ON DEPLOYMENTS AND THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED

Type of deployment	No. of missions/ deployments (2014)	No. of days (2014)	No. of missions/ deployments (2015)	No. of days (2015)	No. of missions/ deployments (Nov. 2016)	No. of days (Nov. 2016)
<b>Global Support Team missions to countries (including surge)</b>	28	478	26	332	19	341
<b>gFSC roster deployments</b>	11	1 071	18	2 836	17	2 738
<b>Stand-by partners deployments</b>	9	946	20	2 642	11	1 976
<b>Partnership deployments</b>	3	177	3	362	2	184
<b>Co-lead agencies deployments</b>	7	324	–	–	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>2 996</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>6 172</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5 239</b>

## SURGE AND DEPLOYMENTS IN 2016



17  
ROSTER

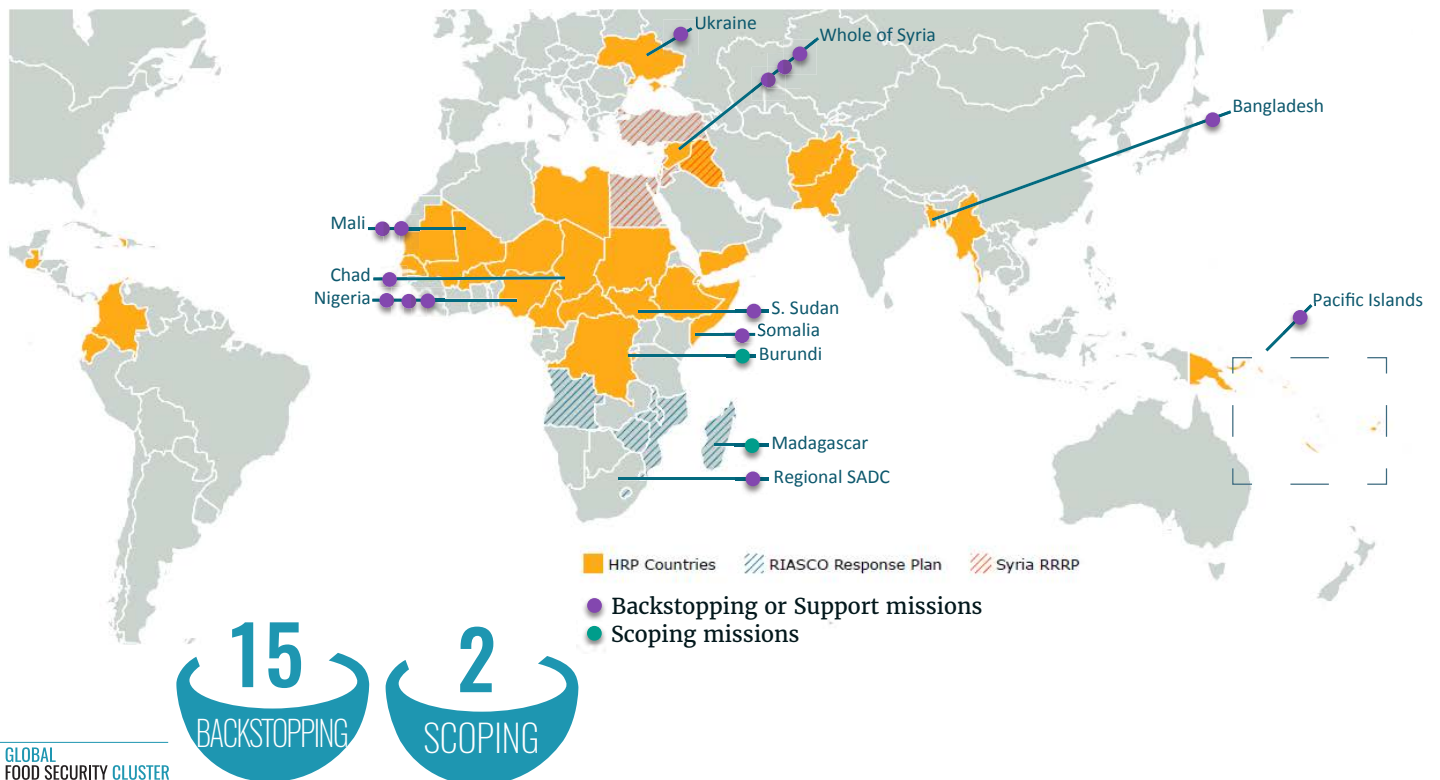
11  
SBP\*

2  
NGOs

2  
gFSC

\*STAND BY PARTNERS

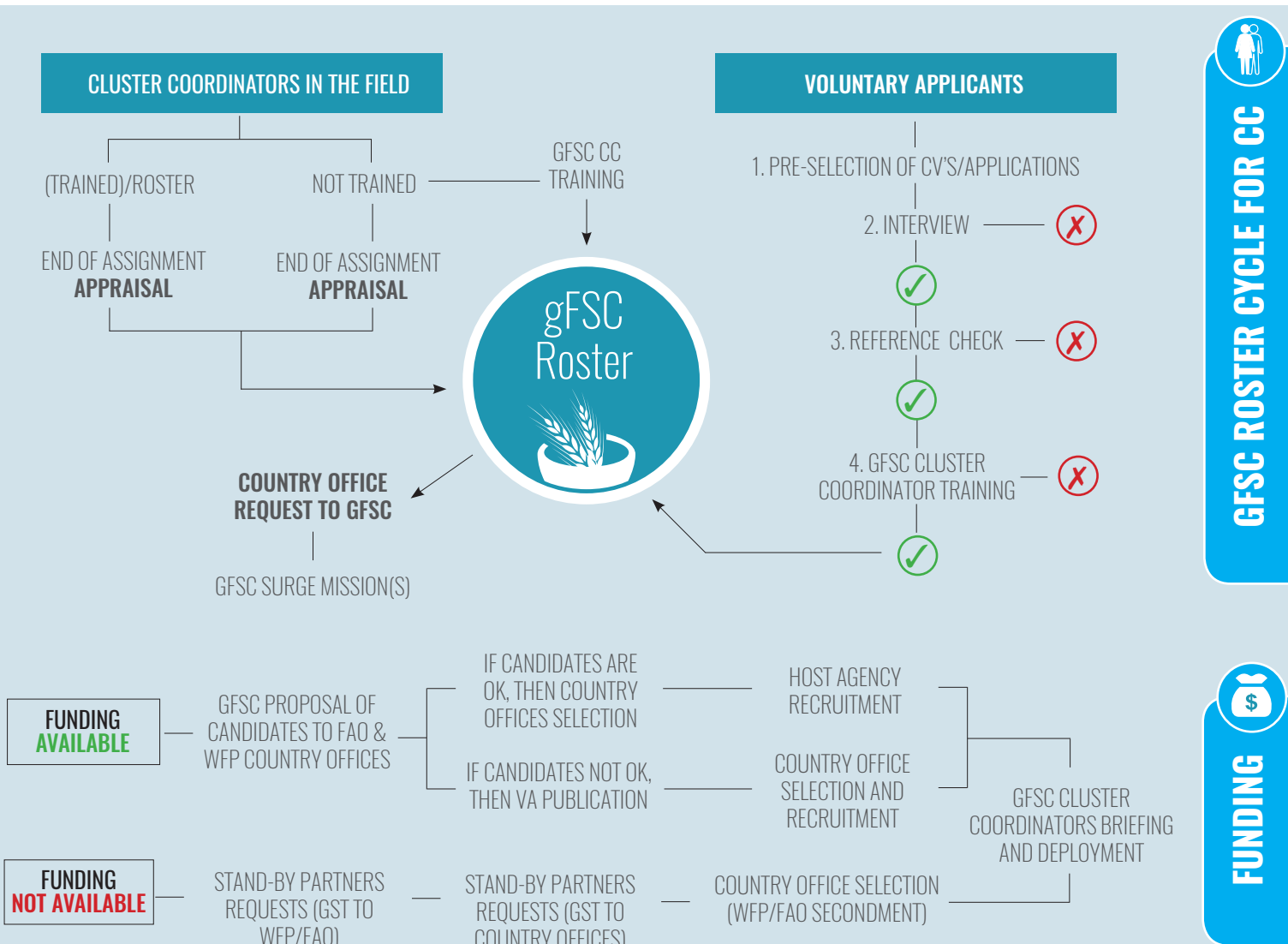
## BACKSTOPPING AND SUPPORT MISSIONS IN 2016



# GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER ROSTER

Maintaining a dynamic roster for Cluster Coordinators is a key function to ensure rapid deployment of qualified staff to respond to coordination needs in emergencies. Following a well-established selection process, a call for applications for the gFSC roster was issued in August 2016 and 99 applications

were submitted as a result. A first batch of 11 francophone candidates has been shortlisted, interviewed and trained at the Level 3 Cluster Coordinator Training in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2016. Further interviews have been ongoing for Anglophone candidates.



GFSC ROSTER CYCLE FOR CC

FUNDING

During 2015–2016, 88 people were trained as Cluster Coordinators, out of which 61 were included in the gFSC roster and 44 were deployed either before or after the training. In 2016 alone, 46 people were trained, out of which 28 were included in the roster and 26 were deployed. For

the first time, a training was held in French for 21 potential French-speaking future coordinators. Out of 88 people trained in 2015 and 2016, 27 percent were women, 71 percent of them were included in the gFSC roster, and 54 percent of them were deployed at least once.



\* Includes participants that were already deployed before the training, participants deployed as NGO co-facilitators and participants deployed through stand-by partners

Central African Republic's capital, Bangui. Food vouchers help beneficiaries to buy oil, manioc, flour, groundnuts, meat, fresh and dried fish, and several other items.



Photo: WFP/Bruno Djoyo

## 4 SCALED-UP ADVOCACY, COMMUNICATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

*More predictable funding resulted in more stable cluster coordination teams at both global and country levels.*

### ADVOCACY

In line with previous years, the global Food Security Cluster used various channels and events for its advocacy, while essential messages remained consistent with 2015. Below is a short summary of events and messages.

#### About El Niño

“While El Niño impacted over 60 million people worldwide through different manifestations, food security carried the biggest burden (75 percent of humanitarian needs).

*Responding to El Niño is about implementing the right intervention at the right time of the phenomenon's manifestation.*

These messages were conveyed during the gFSC global partners' meeting in Rome, 14–15 June 2016, as well as during two one-day El Niño events: “El Niño: Impacts and Priorities for Action” in Rome, 17 March 2016, and “El Niño and La Niña: Impacts,

Prospects and Priorities for Action” on 6 July 2016. In addition, the global Food Security Cluster produced six situation and coordination overviews, including global maps, regional narratives and seasonal calendars.

“With urbanization rapidly increasing and a significant number of crises affecting urban areas, the humanitarian community is still short of a common methodology for identifying, assessing and targeting vulnerable people in urban settings. Urban settings are very complex in terms of a variety of actors involved and of factors affecting the vulnerability of cities. It is thus extremely important to coordinate with different non-traditional actors such as municipalities and the private sector and to consider multisectoral and area-based approaches to ensure an adequate response to urban emergencies. In view of these challenges, the gFSC officially became a member of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises, launched at the World Humanitarian Summit with the aim of contributing to the development of common tools and mechanisms.

These messages were the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit side event: “Urban Fragility, Vulnerability and Resilience: Tools for

Assessments from Macro to Micro Scale” in Istanbul, Turkey, 24 May 2016

“Humanitarian programming should be based on the seasonal analysis of multiple threats, risks and opportunities that people (grouped by livelihoods) are exposed to. This principle must drive the work of existing inter-cluster working groups, and the global cluster coordinators group must provide the platform for developing an analytical framework.

This message was repeated during the various meetings of the Global Cluster Coordinators Group (GCCG) during the Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team (STAIT) mission

to Somalia and the two global partners’ meeting. By end 2016, GCCG agreed to develop a project on joint inter-cluster analysis to be submitted to various donors in 2017.

## About food insecurity in urban settings

## About inter-sectoral joint analysis and planning

## COMMUNICATION

**Global dashboard:** In 2016, there was one release of the global dashboard. The dashboard presents a short description of country cluster profiles and coordination costs as well as global cluster funding status.

**2016 food security component of global humanitarian appeal:** This is a new product highlighting the food security component of country humanitarian appeals, i.e. funding requirement, people in need, people targeted and funding status. The product is further supporting country-level resource mobilization and communication.

**Newsletter:** The gFSC continued circulating its quarterly newsletter and released four editions in 2016. The amount of newsletter recipients tripled during the course of 2016 and reached 1 500, among which FSC partners and Cluster Coordinators. It has a global reach and is read in 57 countries worldwide. The newsletter covers country updates, gFSC activities and events as well as trainings and technical news.

### Video project – Strengthening partnership with first responders

Local partners are the first responders to disasters and outbreak of violence, as they provide humanitarian assistance that is not only

*Video of Sheikh Omar playing his kora and the video team 18 Frames, Christof Böske and Tobias Greber*



timely, but also highly relevant to the priorities and needs of the affected women, girls, men and boys. After the crisis, when international organizations have already moved to the next crisis, local partner organizations remain in the country. Preparedness and resilience-building play an important role in partnership and coordination and local NGOs are one of the main elements to it. Capacitating local structures and civil societies to become competent first responders is therefore crucial. But a lot of work still remains to be done to get the maximum benefit out of the collaboration with local actors in the country clusters. Learning from each other and sharing knowledge through collaboration and coordination can help to reach this objective. With the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, the global Food Security Cluster and

Welthungerhilfe have initiated the production of a partnership video that will give arguments on the importance of partnering in humanitarian crises, how local partners can get involved in Food Security Clusters in countries, and how to collaborate in different humanitarian crises and responses. The countries chosen are Bangladesh, as an example for a country in South Asia that is prone to natural disasters, and Mali, as an example for a complex crisis in sub-Saharan Africa. A third country will be included in 2017 representing the Middle East region. These countries showcase three diverse cultural and humanitarian contexts and present various coordination solutions in both sudden-onset disasters and protracted crises. The focus of the video is put on the added value and advantage of coordinating and partnering with local actors.



## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The working figure for the 2016 budget was established at US\$3.68 million. This is a moving target since a number of activities are demand-driven and depend on the crises situation (particularly for surge deployment and backstopping missions).

In 2016, the gFSC volume of expenditures was US\$2.65 million with the following breakdown:

Mainstreamed funding from FAO and WFP	US \$1,238,473
Extra-budgetary funding from FAO and WFP (Sweden, Department for International Development, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany)	US \$747,820
Contributions from NGOs (Welthungerhilfe, Norwegian Refugee Council, GenCAP, Samaritan's Purse, Technisches Hilfswerk)	US \$670,514
Funding status	US \$2,656,808

## gFSC 2016 EXPENDITURES BY FUNDING SOURCE

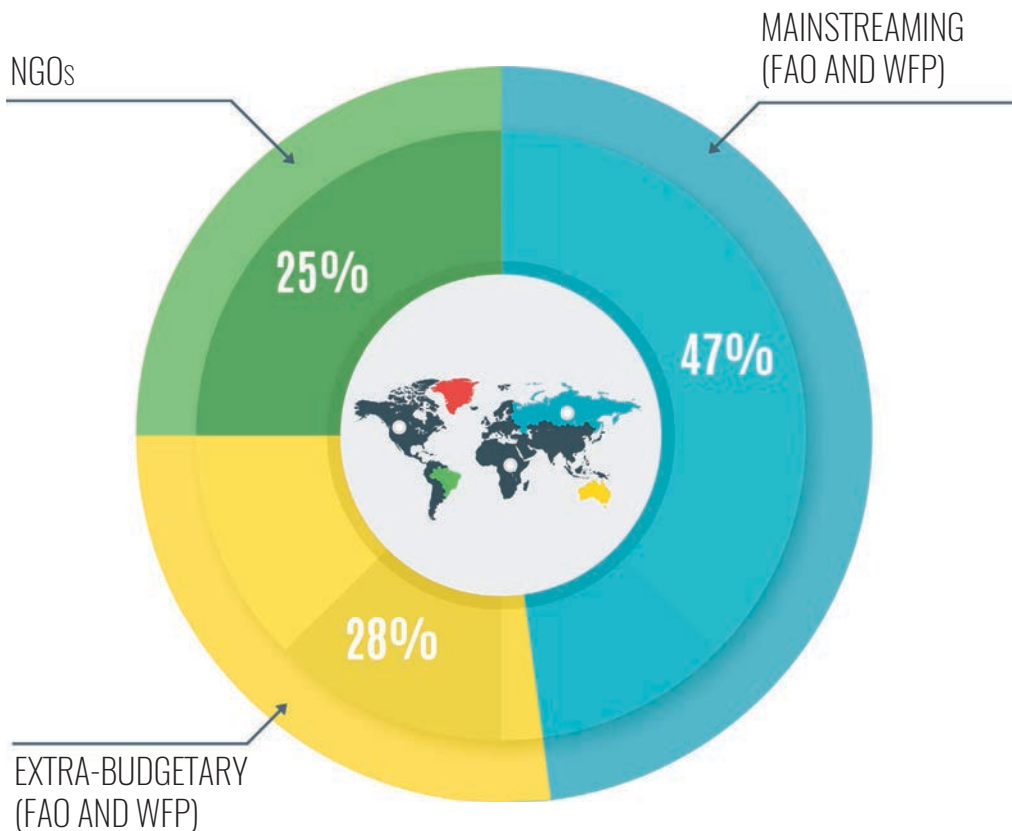




Photo: 18 Frames/Weltungerhilfe

## 5 DEEPENED AND DIVERSIFIED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND OPERATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

*Strategic and diversified partnerships remained key for effective and efficient delivery of coordination support for the gFSC in 2016.*

### INTER-CLUSTER COLLABORATION AND IASC

gFSC regularly participated in different forums, such as the Global Cluster Coordination Group (GCCG), the Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team (STAIT) discussions/missions, the Information Management Working Group, and other IASC subsidiary bodies.

The GCCG is composed of Global Cluster Coordinators of the 11 IASC recognized Global Clusters; as members of the group, the Global Cluster Coordinators represent the partners in their respective clusters. The GCCG is convened and facilitated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) (Humanitarian Coordination Support Section), and OCHA provides Secretariat support to the group. Regular meetings were convened in Geneva, Switzerland, in 2016 and gFSC participated either remotely through teleconference or physically through short missions. Key topics discussed in the course of the year were related to the cluster system

in the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), country clusters description mapping, joint field missions and Humanitarian Programme Cycle guidelines. Two dialogue meetings were convened between GCCG and donors in Geneva. The first one, ahead of the WHS, reiterated the role of clusters in the humanitarian architecture and the fit-for-purpose question. The second meeting was a presentation of the country clusters description mapping and priority areas to be addressed in 2017.

Collaboration with STAIT continued, mainly through participation in webinars and through a STAIT mission to Somalia.

With regard to IASC subsidiary bodies, gFSC remained engaged with the IASC Task Team on Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (AAP/PSEA), the Gender Reference Group, and the IASC Reference Group on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas.

### COLLABORATION WITH THE IPC GLOBAL SUPPORT UNIT

In relation to the IPC, gFSC is a member of the Steering Committee and a member of the Food Security Technical Working Group. The gFSC

regularly participated in different deliberations of the IPC, ranging from managerial, strategic and technical discussions.

## COLLABORATION WITH GLOBAL PARTNERS

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC): In 2016, the NRC remained a strong partner at both global and country levels. At the global level, gFSC benefited from the secondment of a cluster coordinator (for surge deployment) for eight months and a GenCap Adviser for eleven months. Furthermore, gFSC was elected as the chair of the CashCap, the roster of cash experts administered by the NRC, in May 2016 for one year. The gFSC participated in two CashCap Steering Committee meetings in

Paris and Brussels in May and November 2016, respectively.

Welthungerhilfe: Welthungerhilfe agreed on the secondment of a food security expert (2016–2017) to lead the implementation of the gFSC Strategic Plan Result 6 on learning and knowledge management (see section 6 below for details). In addition, gFSC initiated a partnership with Welthungerhilfe on the development of a video advocating for partnership with local NGOs.

### THE BUNDESANSTALT TECHNISCHES HILFSWERK (THW)

THW sponsored two trainings in Stuttgart, Germany, in 2016, i.e. a Cluster Coordinator and an Information Management Officers training (see section 1 and 2, respectively).

### NEW NGO GLOBAL PARTNERS

More international NGOs (INTERSOS, People in Need, Première Urgence, Food for the Hungry) joined gFSC in 2016.

### DIALOGUE AND MEETINGS WITH GLOBAL PARTNERS

Monthly teleconferences are the chosen channel to exchange regularly with partners on issues related to food security situation and trend at country level, coordination requirements and gFSC support, humanitarian appeals or humanitarian policy developments. Two face-to-face global partners' meetings were organized. While the first meeting (June 2016) was dedicated largely to post-World Humanitarian Summit feedback, the end-year meeting (November 2016) focused on the past two years' achievements and the development of the new gFSC strategic Plan 2017–2019.

### EXPLORING COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITIES/ACADEMIA

The gFSC also started strategic discussion and collaboration with academia (Tulane, Bocconi and Bochum universities) and initiated joint activities, such as guest lectures, inclusion of cluster coordination in the course modules, and inclusion of the university graduates in cluster capacity-building initiatives.

### PARTNERSHIP ON CLUSTER GOVERNANCE

One of the key decisions made by the gFSC partners during the December 2015 global partners' meeting was to establish a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG). With the support of an ad hoc committee, gFSC drafted the terms of reference, which were presented during the gFSC global partners' meeting in June 2016 and endorsed. An election was held, and Action Against Hunger, Welthungerhilfe and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies were elected. The SAG came to full shape by September 2016 with nominations from FAO and WFP and the election of a field Cluster Coordinator. The SAG had the first teleconference followed by two face-to-face meetings in Rome during October and November 2016. SAG also presented the progress of its works since the formation to the global partners in the meeting in November 2016.



Interview session with Thierno Diallo, Associate Director of Welthungerhilfe, in Mali.

Photo: Welthungerhilfe/Andrea Dichtung

## 6 SYSTEMATIZED LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE- MANAGEMENT PROCESSES

*Opportunities for interaction, exchange and relationships are crucial for learning and knowledge management among global partners and Cluster Coordinators. In 2016, the gFSC provided these opportunities by chairing the Secretariat of its six technical working groups, organizing the second cluster coordinator retreat, and facilitating the process of the World Humanitarian Summit.*

### WORKING GROUPS

Working groups facilitate the exchange across global partners and provide technical support to in-country Food Security Clusters. To improve and streamline this support, a survey was conducted to better understand partners' and cluster coordinators' interest and capacities to gFSC's six technical working groups. The findings emphasized the demand for continuous exchange among partners and the support to

the in-country FSC, but also revealed the need of streamlining the functions of the working groups. With the advice of the SAG, the working groups were asked to refocus their activities to address in-country demands and challenges. The changes were presented during the second Global Partners' Meeting in November 2016 in Rome and are reflected in upcoming activities in 2017.

### Programme Quality Working Group and Technology and Innovation Working Group

The purpose of the Programme Quality Working Group (PQWG) is to enhance the quality of food security responses for all vulnerable and affected populations in humanitarian emergencies. The purpose of the Technology and Innovation Working Group (TIWG) is to serve as a forum for sharing and discussing tools on new technologies and innovations, including experience with their use, and best practices for information-sharing and data protection. Given that humanitarian organizations are increasingly using new technologies and innovative tools to provide assistance and protection to affected populations, the PQWG and the TIWG convened

together during the Global Partners' Meeting in 2016, and it was agreed that the TIWG would serve as a "technology and innovation task team" of the PQWG, but potentially also for other gFSC working groups if needed. A key achievement in 2016 was the revision of the "Food Security Cluster Core Indicator Handbook" and the release of the "Food Security Cluster and Accountability to Affected Populations" video.

- **Chair:** Gaia van der Esch, IMPACT Initiatives
- **Technology and Innovation Task Team:** World Vision International, Cooperazione Internazionale



Photo: FAO/Shah Marai

The Food Security and Livelihoods in Urban Settings Working Group strengthens the coordination and capacity of Cluster Coordinators and gFSC partners to analyse needs and shape food security responses in urban settings. In 2016, the Urban Working Group has been progressing on the “Adapting to an Urban World” project, including producing an analysis of the five conducted urban food security assessments and highlighting the findings and the gaps to be addressed for the way forward. Two new assessments have been planned for 2017, as well as the launch of a guidance package and the development of related trainings.

With the aim to increase best practice sharing, the Urban Mapping has also been updated and improved through a storytelling feature that captures urban case studies of gFSC partners, as well as terms of references and outputs of Urban Working Groups of Food Security Clusters at the national level. Linked

The Inter-cluster Nutrition Working Group is characterized by the collaboration of gFSC and the Global Nutrition Cluster and supported by its partners engaged in food and nutrition security. The working group mainly focuses on strengthening nutrition-sensitive programming in food security. In October 2016, the Inter-cluster Nutrition Working Group facilitated a workshop on nutrition-sensitive programming in Amman, Jordan. With relevance to the ongoing HRP process, Food Security Cluster and Nutrition

The Cash and Markets Working Group acts as a platform to discuss and address cash and market-related issues specifically in the food security sector.

The annual cash questionnaire was launched in May 2016 to capture needs and gaps of FSCs with regard to coordination of cash transfers in the sector. Based on the results, a three-month CashCap secondment was launched to support the gFSC in addressing the recommendations in support of national coordination. The aim of the secondment was to produce a capacity-building

to the case studies collection, a webinar in collaboration with Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) on “Cash in the City” has been organized and has been very well attended with around 150 participants.

Through the participation in global forums and networks, the Urban Working Group has also played a key role in shaping global urban discussions and advocacy, including the Urban Agenda, the IASC urban key messages and the Global Alliance work plan, of which the gFSC is now an official partner. Side events have been organized on urban issues both at the World Humanitarian Summit and the Habitat III in partnership with Cluster Lead Agencies and other humanitarian stakeholders.

- **Co-chairs:** Allister Clewlow, Samaritan’s Purse; Anne O’Mahony, Concern Worldwide; Gaia van der Esch, IMPACT Initiatives

Cluster partners exchanged experience and discussed how best to mainstream nutrition in programming in the Whole of Syria response. Another workshop was planned in South Sudan, but had to be postponed because of the violent uprising during the second half of 2016.

- **Chair:** Josephine Ippe, Global Nutrition Cluster Coordinator-UNICEF
- **Co-chair:** Cyril Lekiefs, Action Against Hunger

package for Cluster Coordinators, including a Cluster Coordinator briefing package/checklist developed in line with the cluster functions, and a series of ad hoc technical webinars to support Cluster Coordinators in coordinating cash transfers in the food security sector. A first webinar was organized in October 2016 on multipurpose cash grants, and a series of others are planned for 2017.

The briefing package was developed with the aim to answer three main questions across all cluster functions – What do I need to put

## Food Security and Livelihoods in Urban Settings Working Group

## Inter-cluster Nutrition Working Group

## Cash and Markets Working Group

in place? What do I need to know? And which resources do I have access to? – in order to give a better overview to Cluster Coordinators of their role in coordinating food security cash transfers, as well as providing them with a very user friendly platform to access key sector resources. This document took into account the inherently multipurpose nature of cash

## Preparedness and Resilience Working Group

The two task teams, Preparedness and Resilience, were merged into one working group with the objective to develop a common position and understanding on the role and contribution of the gFSC and in-country FSC in preparedness and resilience-building in disaster-prone countries or in different contexts and scenarios. With the support of in-country FSC good practices, tools and guidance on food security emergency preparedness/readiness and recovery programming that supports resilience are analysed. To facilitate this process, a

discussion paper was elaborated and identified a number of priority areas to work on from 2016 onwards.

- **Co-chairs:** Temesgen Belete, World Vision International; Syed Mohammed Aftab Alam, Plan International

discussion paper was elaborated and identified a number of priority areas to work on from 2016 onwards.

- **Chair:** Geraldina Brick/Kassoum Ouattara, Catholic Relief Services (January–June 2016); Priya Behrens-Shah, Welthungerhilfe (July–December 2016)
- **Co-chairs:** Priya Behrens-Shah, Welthungerhilfe (January–June 2016); Geraldina Brick/Kassoum Ouattara, Catholic Relief Services (July–December 2016)

## CLUSTER COORDINATORS RETREAT

In June 2016, 20 Cluster Coordinators from 17 Food Security Clusters as well as colleagues from the Regional Office, the Global Support Team of the Food Security Cluster, the Emergency and Telecommunications Cluster and representatives of the gFSC Strategic Advisory Group and gFSC working groups participated in the second Cluster Coordinator retreat in Rome. The aim of these retreats is to improve leadership, coordination and performance of the food security sector at the country level by strengthening the skills of

Cluster Coordinators, sharing good practices and lessons learned. So, participants exchanged their experience and lessons learned during the last Humanitarian Needs Overview/HRP process 2016 and discussed the outcomes of the World Humanitarian Summit or the Grand Bargain, respectively, and its impact on the cluster. Other topics referred to the preparation of cluster transition and deactivation, requests and needs of in-country clusters, and the linkages to the technical working groups on the global level.

*Around 20 Cluster Coordinators from all over the world met in June 2016 in Rome to share experiences, discuss challenges and best practices.*



A boat passing by homes still flooded by a cyclone that swept through Bangladesh, flattening homes, killing livestock and damaging crops.



Photo: FAO/Munir Uz Zaman

## CROSS-CUTTING DIMENSIONS

Training sessions on Gender and Age in Humanitarian Action by GenCap Adviser and Protection Mainstreaming by the Global Protection Cluster.

gFSC invited the coordinator of the Task Team for Protection Mainstreaming at the Global Protection Cluster for a session on protection mainstreaming in clusters. The session's objectives were:

- to raise awareness on crucial notions around protection mainstreaming and its four pillars (safety and dignity, meaningful access, AAP, and participation and empowerment);
- to clarify the distinction between protection mainstreaming, protection integration programming, and protection stand-alone programmes; and
- to define precisely the roles and responsibilities of each actor (clusters, donors, Cluster Lead Agencies, NGOs, etc.). Participants further discussed and shared good practices or lessons learned from the field.

In addition, the GenCap Adviser seconded to gFSC gave an input on gender mainstreaming in clusters and facilitated a discussion on related experience in the field. The participants discussed challenges, such as the availability of sex and age disaggregated data or the collaboration with other actors and agencies, to address gender-based violence as well as sexual exploitation and abuse.



## WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

*The summit kick-started concrete changes in the way we address humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability*

The first-ever World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) was convened in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016. Nine thousand people participated, including 180 member states, two-thirds of which were represented at the ministerial level or above, including 55 heads of state and government. In addition, 23,000 people were engaged in a three-year consultation process leading to the convening of the summit. Driven by a consensus that the current humanitarian system is unable to cope with the intensifying needs of populations affected by conflict and disaster, the WHS aimed to take stock of the achievements and failed interventions of a sector confronted with rapidly evolving challenges, and recommit stakeholders to reinvigorate individual and collective responsibility to respond and to unite in prevention and in breaking the cycles of recurrent crisis and conflict. The summit affirmed that a new approach is needed to meet, prevent and reduce humanitarian needs. Humanitarian and development actors agreed on a new way of working together towards

collective outcomes to accomplish this. The summit kick-started concrete changes in the way we address humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.

The global Food Security Cluster took part in the consultative process in 2015 and attended the summit in 2016. While the Global Cluster Coordination Group did not submit specific commitment, the global Food Security Cluster took part in the special session “Global Alliance for Urban Crises” and chaired the side event “Urban Fragility, Vulnerability and Resilience: Tools for Assessment from Macro to Micro Scale”. The purpose of the special session was to officially launch the Global Alliance for Urban Crises (the Alliance) and to bring attention to the urban dimension of humanitarian crises and the need for the adaptation of global crisis response to an increasingly urban world. The side event was attended by 75 participants, and the panellists represented the gFSC, WFP, United Nations University and Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) and discussed different dimensions of urban vulnerability.

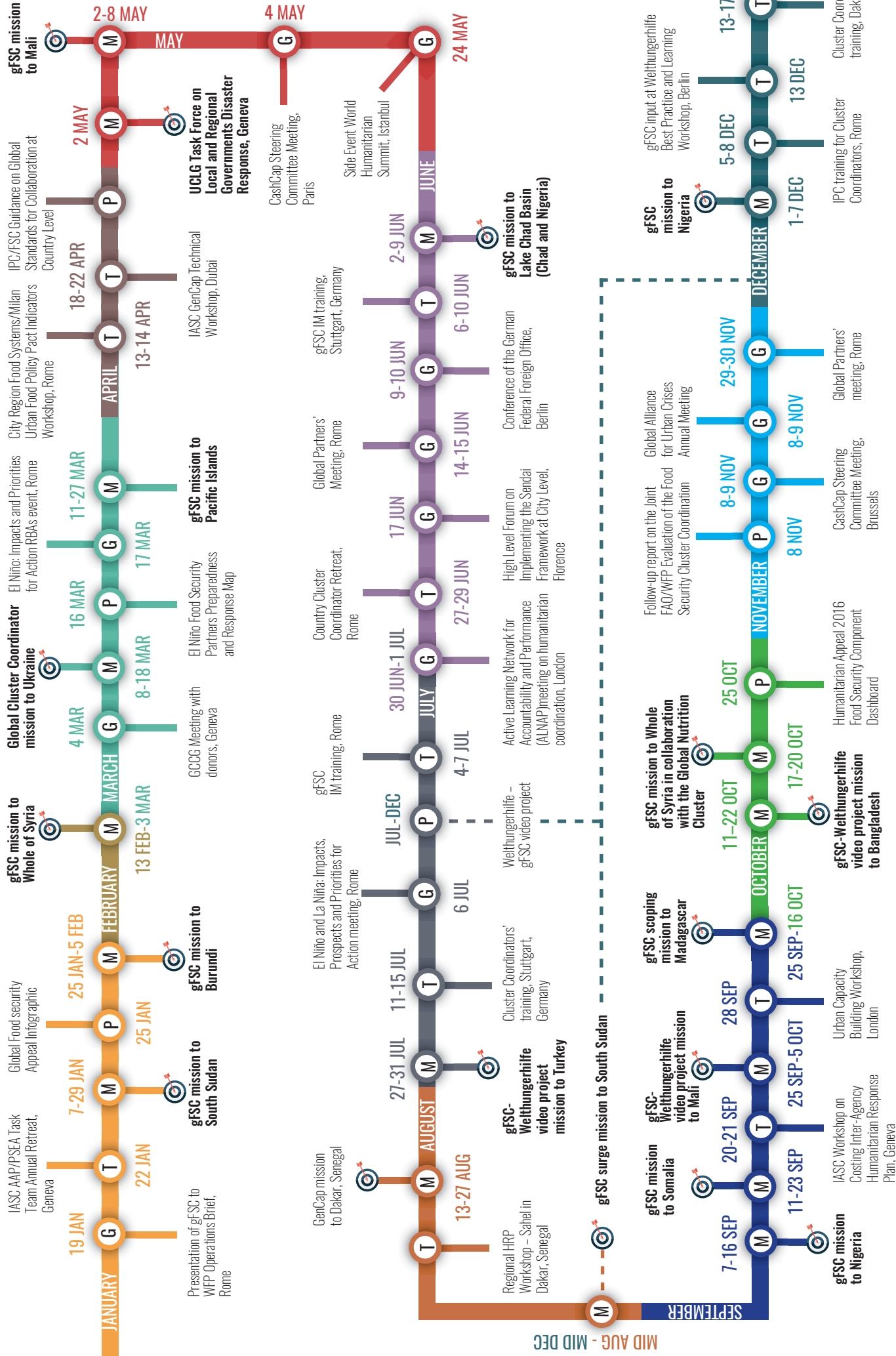
### KEY MESSAGES OF THE SIDE EVENT

The humanitarian community needs to agree on a common methodology to identify, assess basic needs and target vulnerable people in urban settings.

1. In urban emergencies, applied research and new technologies will help humanitarian actors to tailor responses and programmes to the real needs of people living in cities.
2. The Global Alliance for Urban Crises aims at bringing together a diverse group of actors to align their work on the urban humanitarian response. The Alliance provides a common framework under which all humanitarian stakeholders can operate, while the Cluster Lead Agencies, gFSC and its partners will contribute greatly to the Alliance by strengthening its operational focus.



# THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER 2016 IN REVIEW

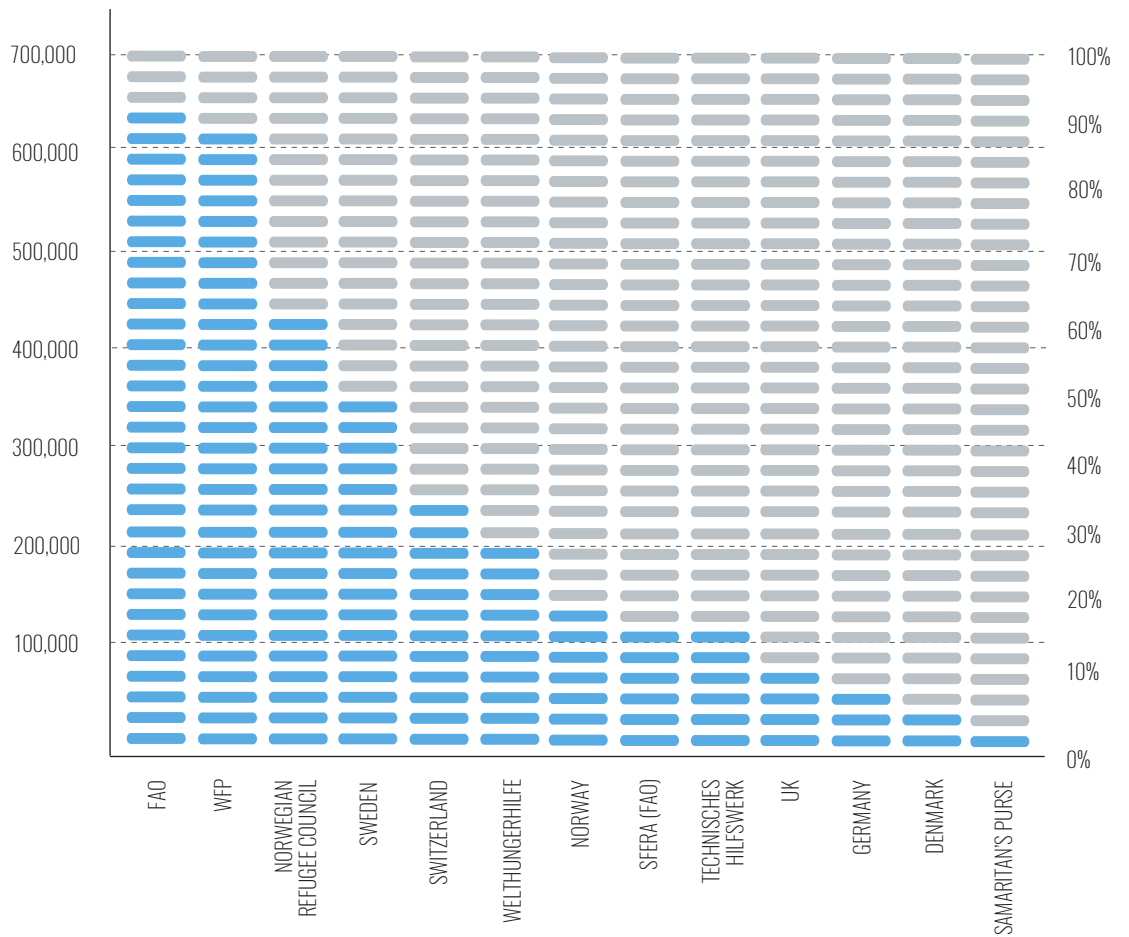


LEGEND: (G) GLOBAL MEETINGS; (T) TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS; (M) MISSIONS; (P) PUBLICATIONS

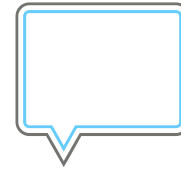
## FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2016

OBJECTIVE	DISBURSEMENT 2016 (US\$)
Result 1: Strengthened and developed national clusters' capacity	610,860.07
Result 2: Harmonized and globalized information management	373,511.05
Result 3: Improved operational and surge support to national clusters	536,953.49
Result 4: Scaled-up advocacy, communication and resource mobilization	188,217.86
Result 5: Deepened and diversified global partnerships and operational collaborations	626,850.61
Result 6: Systematized learning and knowledge-management processes	320,415.36
<b>TOTAL – 6 RESULTS</b>	<b>2,656,808.44</b>

## FOUNDING SOURCE TO gFSC IN 2016



## VOICES FROM THE FIELD AND VOICES FROM PARTNERS



### “*Coordination is...*”

“Coordination is coordination. By coordinating, you are making sure to not duplicate actions and to cover all relevant aspects. You are getting everyone’s perspective around the table and you are able to act collectively. A coordination space is not the place to build partnership. Partnerships are built beyond the responsibility of coordination.”

**Mr Nipin Gangadharan, Action Against Hunger,  
Country Director, Bangladesh**

### “*Partnership means...*”

“There are many different types of partnerships, and many different reasons that we might want to develop them. Some partners help us in generating ideas, or develop content. Others help to design our engagement activity. Some share their skills and knowledge to ensure our activity is a success, and others may be prepared to put resources into the activity. Partners can also help in developing relationships with different stakeholders.”

**Dr Anas Al Kaddour, Food Security and Livelihoods Manager,  
Global Communities, Whole of Syria, Turkey Hub**

### “*The Food Security Cluster is...*”

“The Food Security Cluster is a huge address book and a forum for partners to get in touch with each other. It is a unique entity that permits to sit together at the same table and to openly discuss basic questions of who does what and where and how. There is clearly no equivalent mechanism for it.”

**Fabien Tallec, Food Security Cluster Coordinator, Mali**

“The Food Security Cluster is a facility for coordination and collaboration from local to global. It enables an appropriate humanitarian response and ensures people’s right to food in times of crisis.”

**Thomas Ølholm, Norwegian Refugee Council, Global Partner**



# GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER PARTNERS, OBSERVERS, ASSOCIATES AND CONTRIBUTORS

## CLUSTER LEAD AGENCIES



## PARTNERS


## OBSERVER

## ASSOCIATES


## GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER CONTRIBUTORS


## ACRONYMS

<b>AAP</b>	Accountability to Affected Populations
<b>ACF</b>	Action Against Hunger
<b>ACTED</b>	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
<b>ALNAP</b>	Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance
<b>CANADEM</b>	International Civilian Response Corps
<b>CashCap</b>	Cash and Markets Capacity Building Roster
<b>CC</b>	Cluster Coordinator
<b>CCPM</b>	Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring
<b>ENSO</b>	El Niño–Southern Oscillation
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FEWS NET</b>	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
<b>FSAC</b>	Food Security and Agriculture Cluster
<b>FSC</b>	Food Security Cluster
<b>FSLC</b>	Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster
<b>GBV</b>	gender-based violence
<b>GCCG</b>	Global Cluster Coordination Group
<b>GenCap</b>	Gender Standby Capacity Project
<b>gFSC</b>	global Food Security Cluster
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GST</b>	Global Support Team
<b>HC</b>	Humanitarian Coordinator
<b>HCT</b>	Humanitarian Country Team
<b>HNO</b>	Humanitarian Needs Overview
<b>HOT</b>	Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
<b>HPC</b>	Humanitarian Programme Cycle
<b>HRP</b>	Humanitarian Response Plan
<b>IASC</b>	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
<b>IM</b>	information management
<b>IMO</b>	Information Management Officer
<b>IMWG</b>	Information Management Working Group
<b>IDPs</b>	Internally Displaced People
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agriculture Development
<b>iMMAP</b>	Information Management and Mine Action Program
<b>IPC</b>	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
<b>mVAM</b>	Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
<b>NGO</b>	non-governmental organization
<b>NORCAP</b>	Norwegian Refugee Council's expert deployment capacity
<b>NRC</b>	Norwegian Refugee Council
<b>OCHA</b>	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>PQWG</b>	Programme Quality Working Group
<b>PSEA</b>	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
<b>SAG</b>	Strategic Advisory Group
<b>STAIT</b>	Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team
<b>THW</b>	Bundesanstalt Technisches Hilfswerk
<b>TIWG</b>	Technology and Innovation Working Group
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHS</b>	World Humanitarian Summit





**GLOBAL**  
**FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER**  
*Strengthening Humanitarian Response*

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