

FOOD SECURITY CRISIS PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Background for Food and Nutrition Security Partners

BACKGROUND

Many countries across the globe face the threat of food and nutrition security (FNS) crises. Major shocks such as conflict, economic downturns, natural disasters, and global shocks¹ can severely worsen food and nutrition security conditions, with the poorest bearing the greatest costs. With each crisis, vulnerabilities are heightened, and those most affected are left more exposed to future shocks. Breaking the vicious cycle of repeat crises requires both scaled-up action to tackle long term drivers and well-coordinated and consistent responses that can be mobilized early when crisis risks begin to emerge.

The World Bank, in close collaboration with food and nutrition security partners, is scaling up its efforts to promote greater preparedness to major food and nutrition security crises. This work supports the World Bank's broader commitments to increase the crisis preparedness and response capacities of its client countries.² In particular, the development and operationalization of **Food Security Crisis Preparedness Plans (FSCPPs)** will be supported in select countries (see Annex 1) that have received support from the World Bank's Early Response Financing (ERF) modality of the Crisis Response Window (CRW).³

- 1 Government owned and led
- 2 Focused on major food and nutrition security crises
- 3 Evidence-based
- 4 Pre-arranged, operational, and timely
- 5 Holistic
- 6 Do No Harm
- 7 Living

¹ Examples include the 2007-2008 world food price crisis, COVID-19 pandemic, and the war in Ukraine.

² IDA20 - Building Back Better from the Crisis: Toward a Green, Resilient and Inclusive Future (English). IDA20 Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/163861645554924417/IDA20-Building-Back-Better-from-the-Crisis-Toward-a-Green-Resilient-and-Inclusive-Future>.

³ All countries receiving support from the CRW ERF are required to put in place FSCPPs. Additional information about the CRW ERF can be found at <https://ida.worldbank.org/en/financing/crisis-financing/crisis-response-window>.

WHAT IS THE FOOD SECURITY CRISIS PREPAREDNESS PLAN?

The FSCPP is a national operational plan that defines what constitutes a major food and nutrition security crisis for a country. The plan also explains how crisis risks are actively monitored and identified, and details step-by-step protocols, roles, and timelines for mobilizing additional funding and early action. The FSCPP brings together these preparedness elements into a cohesive operational framework to support the systematic recognition of an emerging crisis and prompt timely joined-up action across government, humanitarian, and development partners to prevent and mitigate the impacts of future food and nutrition security crises. While the FSCPP is a World Bank requirement associated with receiving support from the ERF, the FSCPP extends beyond the World Bank's engagement and represents the country's national plan.

FSCPP guiding principles:

1. Government owned and led:

Where possible, the government should be at the center of developing and managing the FSCPP across all relevant national and local institutions and agencies.⁴ Existing and relevant government systems should be leveraged fully and complemented, where needed. In contexts in which a government may have limited operational capacity to lead the FSCPP, these functions should be supported by the international community – with responsibilities shared across humanitarian and development partners – until the government's capacity builds.

2. Focused on major food and nutrition security crises:

In any given year, a country may face numerous shocks affecting food and nutrition security, some of which may have localized and limited impacts while others can lead to widespread and severe impacts affecting many people across the country. The FSCPP is focused on these latter shocks which extend beyond and exacerbate existing chronic issues and threaten to lead to a major food and nutrition security crisis.⁵

3. Evidence-based:

The FSCPP should be anchored by rigorous, well vetted, and timely food and nutrition security data and analytics. Given the many drivers and shocks that can lead to a major FNS crisis, there is a need to consolidate and analyze this disparate information as part of regular risk reporting to provide a comprehensive view of emerging and major risks. Where available, existing early warning systems such as the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), Cadre Harmonise, and the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) provide a strong foundation for this analysis and identifying a potentially emerging and major crisis.

Additionally, to complement these early warning systems and to help fill gaps between major reporting cycles, high frequency data and analysis produced by individual FNS partners and other sources (e.g., market surveillance information, verified news reporting, weather forecasts, hydromet systems, satellite imagery, etc.) should be consolidated regularly and integrated into FSCPP arrangements.

4. Pre-arranged, operational, and timely:

The FSCPP moves beyond just risk monitoring activities and requires that 3 interlinked operational elements be in place. This includes: i) operational arrangements for continuously monitoring and quickly identifying major food and nutrition security crises; ii) operational arrangements for convening programmatic leads across government, humanitarian, and development partners to assess emerging crisis risks and scale up early action; and iii) in the event a major crisis may be emerging, operational arrangements and protocols for convening senior officials to collectively recognize the crisis, bridge operational and funding gaps, and promote well-coordinated and holistic responses across government and its humanitarian and development partners.

5. Holistic:

Major food security crises extend beyond the response capacities of any single entity. If a major crisis is identified, activities should be scaled up quickly and coordinated across the fullness of government, humanitarian, and development partners. Comprehensive responses should utilize the comparative advantages of all supporting partners to tackle immediate needs to protect lives and livelihoods and address underlying drivers to build greater resilience to future shocks.

⁴ Where government capacity may be limited, the international community comprised of humanitarian and development partners can temporarily support FSCPP elements until the government is ready to lead the FSCPP.

⁵ Acute food insecurity is measured and classified according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 5-phase scale, namely: IPC 1 (minimal), IPC 2 (stressed), IPC 3 (crisis), IPC 4 (emergency), and IPC 5 (catastrophe/famine) conditions. While the definition of a food and nutrition security crisis may differ across countries, a major crisis is typically signified by the occurrence of an acute shock (or shocks) which threatens to significantly push populations into more severe crisis, emergency, and catastrophe/famine acute food insecurity conditions corresponding with the aforementioned IPC phases or other relevant food and nutrition security data.

6. Do No Harm:

The FSCPP should be underpinned by the principle of do no harm. This requires that the FSCPP carefully take into consideration country and local contexts and account for how responses may interact and affect existing economic, social, and political dynamics.⁶ This principle is particularly important in Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations (FCS).

7. Living:

While the occurrence of major food and nutrition security crises can be reduced over time, especially as development goals are reached and resilience builds, it is impossible to completely eliminate the risk of all future crises. This is in part due to the numerous drivers and shocks that can lead to a major food security crisis. Crisis preparedness is a continuous activity requiring steadfast maintenance and investment so that operational arrangements are up to date and can be activated quickly to ensure timely responses to mitigate impacts. The FSCPP, therefore, serves as a living document that should be revisited and updated regularly to ensure it remains fit for this purpose. Additionally, the FSCPP serves as an efficient means of retaining institutional knowledge about food and nutrition security crisis operational arrangements. In this regard, the FSCPP serves as an important resource to agencies and supporting partners managing staff changes, helping to smooth transitions and promote continuity.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL COLLABORATIONS

In contexts with well-established food and nutrition security crisis response systems, FSCPPs provide an opportunity to review these systems and further strengthen their crisis preparedness elements (see Annex 2 for an overview of the FSCPP's elements and general considerations). In contexts where existing systems may only partially cover crisis preparedness elements, the FSCPP provides an important means for identifying critical gaps and setting the stage for filling these gaps over time.

FSCPP development will be a government-led and owned process, where possible. Given the critical roles played by humanitarian and development partners supporting food and nutrition security crisis responses in many countries, the FSCPP also provides an opportunity for these stakeholders to contribute to the FSCPP. Depending on the context, contributions from partners could range from participating in technical consultations and working group meetings to help develop the FSCPP to supporting the operationalization of the FSCPP in collaboration with government and other supporting partners.

For illustrative purposes, indicative steps for developing FSCPPs and potential entry points for partners to collaborate are outlined in Table 1. The specific development processes will be different for each country based on their respective capacities, needs, and priorities. As a starting point, country level partners interested in being part of these efforts are encouraged to contact the World Bank's respective technical teams listed in Annex 1. Additionally, the World Bank will be promoting collaborative efforts at the global and regional levels to support the development of FSCPPs. This includes leveraging its key partnerships with the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS)⁷ and Global Network Against Food Crises⁸ and building on longstanding collaborations with United Nations organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Food Programme (WFP) as well as with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), donor partners, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

⁶ For examples of Do No Harm principles, please see: CDA (<https://cdacollaborative.org/what-we-do/conflict-sensitivity/>); Oxfam (<https://www.oxfamnovib.nl/kenniscentrum/resources/blog-kenniscentrum/the-do-no-harm-approach-how-to-ensure-that-our-work-contributes-to-peace-not-conflict/>); Center for Global Development, IRC, and Mercy Corps (<https://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/document/4291/theroleoftheworldbankinfragileandconflict-affectedsituations-002.pdf>).

⁷ <https://www.gafs.info/>

⁸ <https://www.fightfoodcrises.net/>

Table 1: Indicative steps and timeline for developing FSCPPs
(for illustrative purposes only)

Step	Description	Estimated Time
FSCPP Drafting Stage		
1. Initial government preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government consulted on FSCPP and planning process for drafting the FSCPP is designed. Government technical focal points, including across relevant ministries, are appointed. Additional technical support, including consultants, onboarded. 	~3 months
2. Stocktaking, early bilateral consultations, and initial drafting of FSCPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic and stocktaking is conducted of existing food and nutrition security-related crisis risk monitoring systems and efforts, financing, and coordination / operational response structures across government as well as humanitarian and development partners (as relevant). Bilateral consultations with key stakeholders and partners to inform stocktaking efforts and initial drafting of FSCPP. 	~2 months
3. Technical working group meetings and refinement of draft FSCPP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working group meetings organized with technical focal points from government as well as humanitarian and development partners (as applicable) to discuss and refine the draft FSCPP. FSCPP operational working arrangements, e.g., step-by-step protocols, roles and responsibilities of supporting agencies and partners, and operational timelines, defined and agreed upon by technical focal points. 	~6 months
4. FSCPP finalization, formal endorsement, and operationalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSCPP to be finalized and submitted to the World Bank for technical review.⁹ FSCPP to be formally endorsed by relevant government ministries as well as supporting operational partners. 	~1 month
FSCPP Maintenance Stage		
5. FSCPP maintenance and updating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a living document, the FSCPP should be updated as needed and on a regular basis to ensure it remains fit for purpose. This process should incorporate lessons learned, reflect changes in institutional arrangements, strengthen collaborations among supporting partners, and further the ownership and capacity of government to lead food and nutrition security crisis preparedness efforts. 	<i>Updated regularly and on an ongoing basis as defined by leading agencies</i>

⁹ The FSCPP is a legal requirement for countries utilizing support from the World Bank's Early Response Financing (ERF) modality of the Crisis Response Window (CRW). To fulfill this requirement, the FSCPP must be submitted to the World Bank on a non-objection basis and reviewed by its Technical Expert Group on Food Security (TEGFS). The TEGFS considers the technical rigor and operational readiness of the FSCPP and determines whether the plan is acceptable to the World Bank. Key areas of focus considered by the TEGFS are provided in Annex 2.

ANNEX 1: Indicative List of Countries Developing FSCPPs

The following countries are expected to develop FSCPPs. In some countries, especially those that received support from the CRW ERF in the IDA 19 cycle (CY 2020-2022), FSCPP development may already be underway and/or in more advanced stages. Specific drafting processes and timelines will vary by country and are dependent on each country's individual capacities, needs, and priorities. Specifics regarding the status of the FSCPP as well as expressions of interest to be included in FSCPP-related dialogues can be directed to the respective World Bank technical team member(s) indicated in the table below. Additionally, please include the World Bank's FSCPP Global Coordination Team (FSCPP@worldbank.org) in all communications.

Africa East (AFE)

● **Country**

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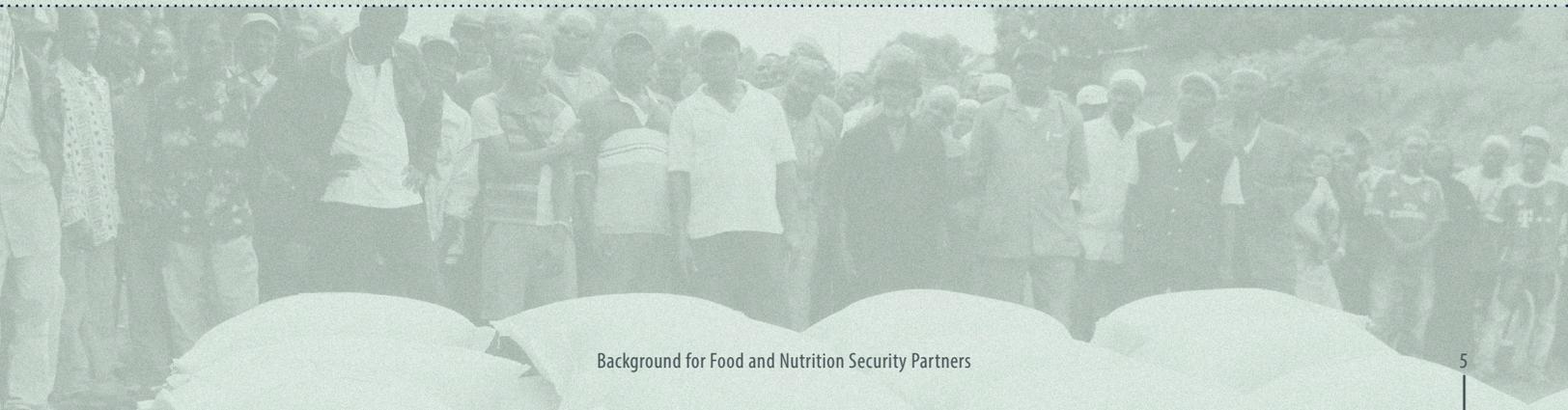
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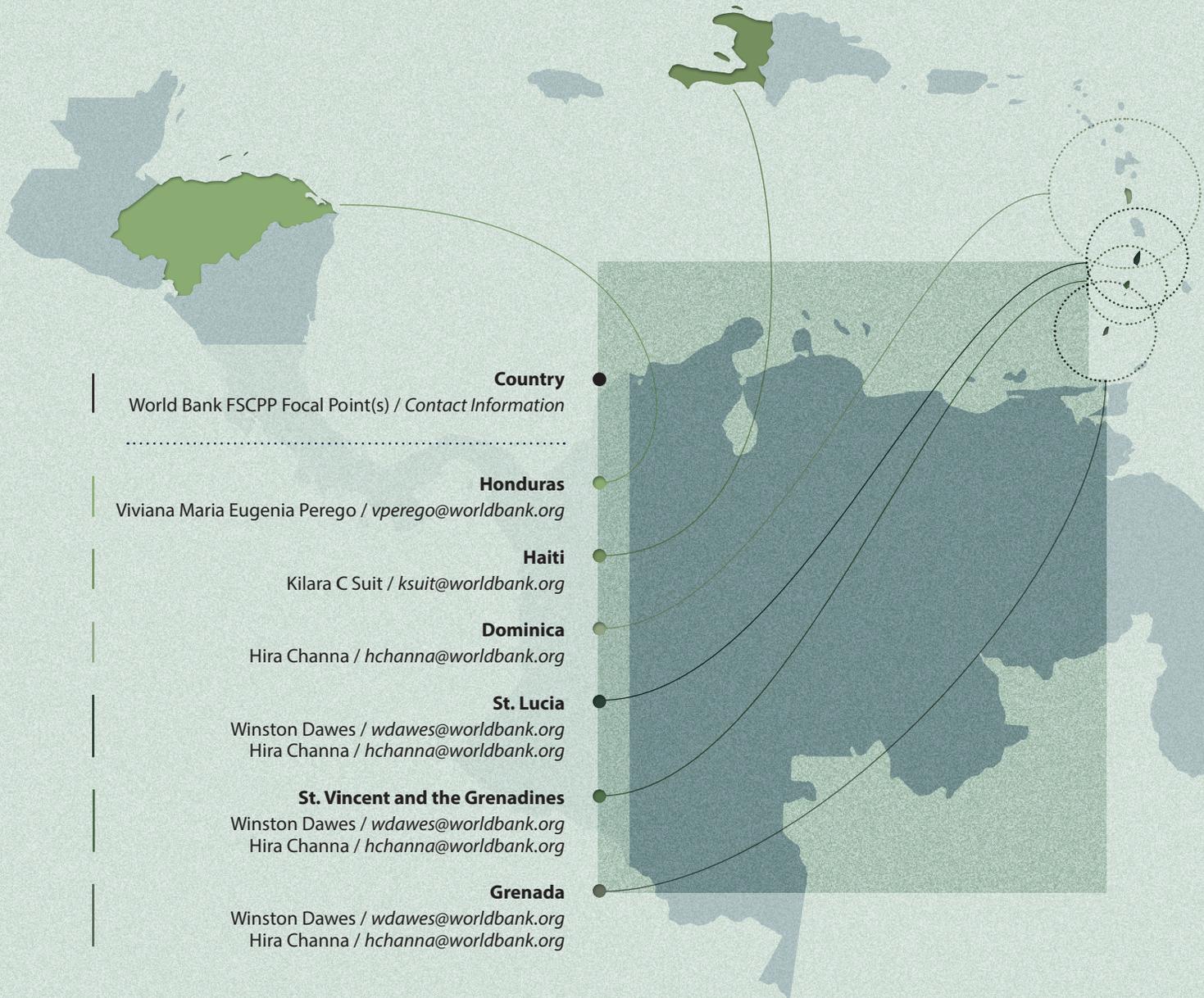
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Latin America and Caribbean (LCR)



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Middle East and North Africa (MENA)



ANNEX 2: FSCPP – General Considerations and Guiding Questions

The following provides a general overview of the technical content and elements that should be addressed by FSCPPs.

A. FSCPP Objectives and Priorities

The FSCPP should set out the objectives and priorities for mobilizing early action to prevent and mitigate future food and nutrition security crises.

Guiding question(s)

A.1. Does the FSCPP clearly define its objectives and priorities for promoting early action to prevent and mitigate the impacts of future food and nutrition security crises in the country?

B. Operational Arrangements

The FSCPP should detail the operational arrangements – including specific roles and responsibilities of government agencies and food and nutrition security partners, timelines, protocols, etc. – for monitoring food and nutrition security crisis risks, scaling up programmatic responses to prevent and mitigate food and nutrition security crisis conditions, and escalating additional financing and programmatic needs to senior officials.

B.i. Operational arrangements for monitoring and identifying food and nutrition security crisis risks

The FSCPP should detail the operational arrangements – including specific roles and responsibilities of government agencies and food and nutrition security partners, timelines, protocols, etc. – for monitoring food and nutrition security crisis risks for the country.

Guiding questions(s)

B.i.1. Does the FSCPP identify the country's major food and nutrition security crisis risks and drivers? Key factors to consider include acute shocks (extending beyond and exacerbating existing chronic issues) which severely impact one or multiple food and nutrition security dimensions, including food availability (e.g., imports, production, etc.), food access (e.g., food prices, incomes and remittances, etc.), food stability (e.g., market functionality, macro stability, climate, conflict, etc.), and food utilization and dietary quality (e.g., malnutrition, etc.). Framing the likelihood / frequency of a given food security driver occurring as well as the potential severity of its impacts can help prioritize the country's risk monitoring efforts, especially in contexts where risk monitoring capacity is limited (see diagram below for an example). It is also helpful to integrate seasonal calendars as part of this analysis.

		Likelihood of Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Driver Occurring		
		Low	Medium	High
Severity of Impact	Low	Risk Monitoring Priority 3	Risk Monitoring Priority 3	Risk Monitoring Priority 2*
	Medium	Risk Monitoring Priority 3	Risk Monitoring Priority 2*	Risk Monitoring Priority 1*
	High	Risk Monitoring Priority 2*	Risk Monitoring Priority 1*	Risk Monitoring Priority 1*

* Events potentially likely to lead to a major FNS-related crisis. The FSCPP primarily focuses on scaling up action to these events.

B.i.2. Does the FSCPP sufficiently explain the country's official process for monitoring and reporting major food and nutrition security crisis risks and drivers in a consolidated and timely manner? Key considerations include identifying which government agencies and humanitarian and development partners (including specific focal points) are responsible for leading and supporting the process of monitoring, consolidating, verifying, publishing, and disseminating risk-related information and under what timeline and frequency. Additionally, critical data gaps which may hamper crisis risk monitoring and efforts and timelines to fill these gaps should be identified.

B.i.3. Does the FSCPP clearly define what constitutes a major food and nutrition security crisis for the country and how such a preliminary determination is recognized and communicated as part of risk monitoring activities to relevant government ministries and food and nutrition security partners? Key considerations, for instance, include the process for assessing whether evidence demonstrates that the country is facing a major / acute shock(s) (extending beyond and exacerbating existing chronic issues), documenting the evolution of the acute crisis, and assessing if the shock(s) are affecting multiple districts and/or governorates, threatening to push populations into more severe crisis, emergency, and catastrophe/famine acute food insecurity conditions corresponding with IPC phases or other relevant food and nutrition security data.

B.ii. Operational arrangements for scaling up programmatic responses to prevent and mitigate major food and nutrition security crisis conditions

The FSCPP should detail the operational arrangements – including agency specific roles and responsibilities, timelines, protocols, etc. – for scaling up programmatic responses to prevent and mitigate major food and nutrition security crisis conditions.

Guiding questions(s)

B.ii.1. Does the FSCPP specify a dedicated body or forum and timebound protocols for bringing together relevant food and nutrition security programmatic leads – including across government (national and local), humanitarian and development partners, private sector partners (where relevant), etc. – to review collectively updated food and nutrition security crisis risk analysis (the output from B.i. operational arrangements), assess existing capacities to respond, and collaborate on enhancing the coordination of food and nutrition security responses in the country? Key considerations include defining members, when and where partners meet, their roles and responsibilities, etc. Areas of collaboration may include, for example: working together to identify and map humanitarian and development interventions and pre-arrangements that can be used to prevent and mitigate the impacts of each major food and nutrition security shock the country faces; maintaining information about active and planned food and nutrition security projects and activities supported by respective organizations – detailing what is being done, where the activities are located, the targeting criteria being used, the implementation and financing timeline, ongoing / planned collaborations with partners, and the capacity to scale up in the event of an acute shock; etc. Additionally, links should be made, where possible and relevant, between these efforts and preparedness efforts for other crises, e.g., One Health / Health Emergency Plans, etc.

B.ii.2. Does the FSCPP generally define potential response options to an emerging and major food and nutrition security crisis and targeting criteria that can be used to help guide interventions? Key considerations include: specifying what criteria will be used to identify populations that will be targeted (and which populations may not be targeted) for crisis response activities (e.g., proxy means testing, etc.) and rationale as to why those criteria are being used.

B.ii.3. Does the FSCPP define pragmatic ways for enabling access to the most vulnerable populations – especially pregnant women and young children as well as those experiencing displacement and/or are located in conflict-affected areas – to ensure food, nutrition, and health responses reach these populations?

B.ii.4. Does the FSCPP detail additional / contingency financing potentially available to scale up responses to an emerging and major food and nutrition security crisis? The FSCPP should seek to maintain a list of contingency resources potentially available across partners, detailing information about the eligibility process for accessing such funds, how such funds might be used and limitations associated with these funds, the timeline for mobilizing such funds, and other related matters.

B.iii. Operational arrangements for escalating additional financing and programmatic needs to senior officials

The FSCPP should detail the operational arrangements for escalating additional financing and programmatic needs to senior officials.

Guiding questions(s)

- B.iii.1.** Does the FSCPP specify a dedicated body or forum and timebound protocols for bringing together relevant and specified senior officials – including across government, humanitarian and development partners, etc. – to be briefed on emerging crisis risks and informed of major financing and programmatic gaps?
- B.iii.2.** Does the FSCPP specify protocols for senior officials to recognize emerging crisis risks formally and collectively (e.g., via joint statements) and to promote the mobilization of additional support, including by activating specific policies, programs, and drawing upon contingency financing (where available)?
- B.iii.3.** In the event a crisis is collectively recognized by senior officials, does the FSCPP specify how scaled up financing and action will be monitored and coordinated by senior officials to ensure a comprehensive and timely response across government, humanitarian, and development partners?

C. FSCPP Operational Status and Maintenance

The FSCPP should explain the state of its operationalization, confirm buy-in and endorsement by key government agencies leading its various elements and support provided by partners, and explain the process for reviewing and evaluating the performance of the FSCPP on a regular basis.

Guiding questions(s)

- C.1.** Is the FSCPP fully operational, and if not, what are the next steps and timeline for ensuring the plan becomes fully operational?
- C.2.** Has the FSCPP been endorsed by government and shared with food and nutrition security partners leading programmatic responses in the country, where relevant, e.g., United Nations agencies, humanitarian and development partners, etc.?
- C.3.** Does the FSCPP define the process for reviewing and evaluating the performance of the FSCPP on a regular basis? Generally, pertinent updates to the plan (e.g., updating focal points, reflecting changes in institutional structures and responsibilities, etc.) should be integrated on an ongoing basis (at a minimum of once per year) whereas more comprehensive performance evaluations should take place intermittently (at a minimum of once per 3 years). Given that the FSCPP is a living document, establishing indicators to help track FSCPP performance is an important consideration to help course correct and strengthen FSCPP arrangements over time.

FSCPPs

FAQs for Food and Nutrition Security Partners

FAQ'S

This note provides an overview of frequently asked questions (FAQs) about the Food Security Crisis Preparedness Plans (FSCPPs) and related collaborations with contributing food and nutrition security partners. For additional details about the specific content of the FSCPPs, country-level focal points to connect to these efforts, and other key considerations, please see the [***FSCPP Brochure***](#).

1 WHAT IS THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE FSCPP?

A crisis can be defined by its impact on lives and livelihoods, among other key factors, and the need to mobilize scaled up responses across various stakeholders. When sudden onset crises such as earthquakes occur, these crises can be easily observed and validated by tools such as Richter scales, and damages can also be assessed quickly via rapid needs assessments.

Food and nutrition security (FNS) crises differ in that they typically tend to be slow onset in nature.¹⁰ While there are extensive FNS early warning systems in place throughout the world, there is not a common decision-making process for FNS crises which can quickly facilitate consensus among government, humanitarian, development and peace partners that a major ‘tipping point’ is occurring. Unfortunately, declarations of famine or near famine have historically played

this role, but waiting to mobilize additional resources until reaching these extreme levels of mass suffering is far too late and significantly less effective than if resources had been mobilized earlier to prevent and mitigate the worst case scenarios.¹¹ As the drivers¹² of FNS crises are projected to persist and deepen globally, these crises can no longer be viewed as an exception but represent a “new normal” requiring faster and earlier responses. This is particularly critical for preventing further setbacks in long-term development goals.

The FSCPP seeks to establish a clear process for recognizing and declaring an emerging and major FNS crisis and promoting the timely mobilization of resources and scaled up early action across multiple stakeholders, including government, donors, the multilateral system, civil society, international financial institutions (IFIs) and the private sector – i.e. across the fullness of the humanitarian, development and peace communities.

2 WHAT IS ADDED VALUE OF THE FSCPP?

The emergence of an FNS crisis marks an urgent situation requiring “all hands on deck”, from the full range of partners working to meet, humanitarian, development and peace objectives. While there are coordination mechanisms in the humanitarian and development sectors on food security and food systems, these coordination mechanisms are often siloed. These arrangements have evolved naturally due to varying mandates and funding streams. There, however, is no single forum for national governments leading crisis responses to bring together all relevant stakeholders across the humanitarian, development, and peace spectrum on food security and food systems when they are needed the most.

Additionally, there is not a dedicated process for elevating country-level needs to relevant regional and global level partners¹³ across the fullness of international system to garner additional and early support.



10 Some food and nutrition security crises can also be rapid onset driven by sudden shocks such as earthquakes and massive sudden displacement due to conflict, among other examples.

11 Scaling up responses have been shown to avert catastrophic outcomes. For instance, see: United Nations. December 13, 2022. Somalia: Famine narrowly averted – so far, warn UN humanitarians. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/12/1131662>.

12 Ongoing drivers include, among others: conflicts with global impact such as Russia’s invasion of Ukraine as well as new and intensifying regional and national ones; more intense and unpredictable climatic events, as a consequence of continued global warming; rising debt, currency devaluations, and tightening fiscal conditions; growing malnutrition trends; persistent high domestic food price inflation; increased inequality and poverty; and a growing global population.

13 For instance, the UN system; international financial institutions and multilateral development banks; major donors; NGOs; regional inter-governmental organizations; and other relevant fora such as the G7 and G20.



At the country-level, the FSCPP adds value by establishing the process for recognizing an emerging and major FNS crisis by government¹⁴ and its humanitarian, development, and peace partners and provides a common platform for partners to support government's FNS responses. The FSCPP also adds value by supporting the tracking of contingency resources and financing modalities that can be mobilized for FNS crises and pre-identifies operations¹⁵ across partners that potentially can be scaled up to maximize synergies and impact. Through this "whole of aid" approach, the FSCPP seeks to enable collective anticipatory and early action and support the identification of longer term and structural investments needed to fill critical gaps and address the root causes of FNS crises.



At the regional and global levels, FSCPPs will establish standards and a dedicated process for raising awareness of emerging FNS crises to senior-level representatives. These senior representatives will also be convened to promote advocacy and additional resource mobilization as well as to facilitate collective accountability among partners to ensure a timely response is marshalled.

WHAT TYPES OF CRISES TRIGGER THE FSCPP?

FSCPPs seek to facilitate the quick identification of and response to major FNS crises. While there is not a globally applicable or standardized definition of what constitutes an FNS crisis – as the severity of chronic and acute FNS conditions differ significantly across countries – there are general parameters that can help identify the 'tipping point' that FSCPPs seek to address. Although objective (i.e. quantitative) indicators / thresholds would be ideal for identifying an emerging FNS crisis, the complexity of FNS crises and data coverage limitations makes the sole use of thresholds impractical and susceptible to missing key events.

With this in mind, **a major FNS crisis can be considered one in which general severity threshold(s)¹⁶ are or are projected to be breached (e.g. based on Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), Cadre Harmonisé), the country is facing a clearly recognizable and acute shock(s) that risks exacerbating existing chronic conditions (e.g. the occurrence of a major drought / flooding, economic crisis, conflict, etc.), multiple areas are being**

or may be affected (e.g. districts, governorates, etc.), and the event risks significantly increasing the number of people experiencing crisis or worse (IPC3+) acute food and nutrition insecurity. There should also be a general consensus among government, humanitarian, development, and peace partners that these criteria have been met and that current and/or forecasted conditions represent a material escalation of risks in FNS conditions based on their experience and knowledge of the country.

It should be noted that such conditions do not require the declaration of famine or a state of emergency. Instead, the triggering of the FSCPP should be well supported by evidence-based approaches as well as consensus among partners that the emerging risks are significant and have a high likelihood of deteriorating in the absence of early and scaled up responses. Meeting these benchmarks is critical for ensuring that comparable processes are used globally and that advocacy and resource mobilization at the global / regional levels is reserved for the most serious emerging risks.

¹⁴ In contexts where government capacity may be limited, including in exceptional circumstances, the FSCPP guides the process for recognizing an emerging and major FNS crisis across humanitarian, development, and peace partners.

¹⁵ For instance, the humanitarian system could draw from its annual Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to pre-identify which activities might be most suitable to scale up in terms of time to deploy and impact. Similarly, development and peace partners with active FNS projects could pre-identify which are most relevant within their respective strategic planning frameworks.

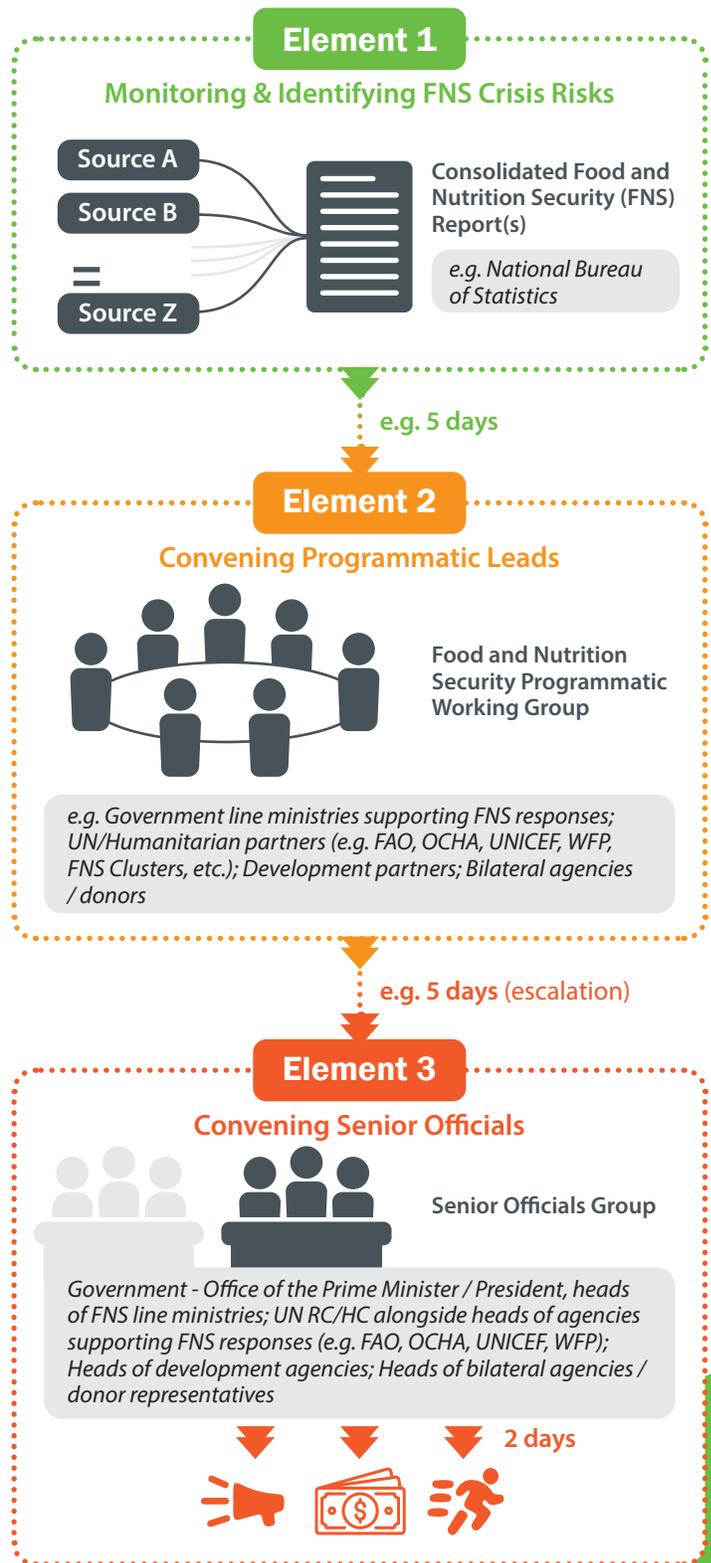
¹⁶ An example of the use of such FNS thresholds is employed in the trigger-based activation of the World Bank's Crisis Response Window Early Response Financing (CRW ERF) which utilizes IPC-compatible food security classifications.

4

WHAT IS THE GENERAL PROCESS TO TRIGGER THE FSCPP?

Triggering of an FSCPP is a country-led process and includes 3 primary elements.

The first element is the consolidation of existing analysis and the generation of updated reporting on major FNS crisis risks. This, for instance, may utilize efforts supported by existing early warning and risk anticipation systems in the country as well as other joint reporting efforts led by collaborating FNS partners. The principle is that such reporting should be standardized and updated on a regular basis (e.g. quarterly). This reporting provides an evidence-based starting point for identifying if the country may be facing a ‘tipping point’ that could lead to a major FNS crisis (as defined by the FSCPP and which meets the previously stated parameters). Once updated FNS crisis risk reporting is produced, **the second element** is to convene programmatic or thematic leads across FNS partners to review this information and reach consensus as to whether or not the FNS crisis definition parameters have been met and that there is a high likelihood of conditions significantly deteriorating in the absence of early and scaled up responses. Ideally, this group is comprised of senior technical leads from relevant government agencies and humanitarian, development, and peace partners who have extensive knowledge on the country’s FNS risks as well as experience leading FNS-related programming. If this group agrees⁸ that an FNS crisis may be emerging, **the third element** is to escalate this finding and proposed recommendations to the most senior representatives in the country and convene them as part of a dedicated decision meeting. This group would typically be led by the Office of the Prime Minister / President and includes heads of FNS-related government line ministries, the UN Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and heads of relevant UN agencies, heads of multilateral development banks (MDBs) and IFIs, and donor representatives. This group is briefed on the recommendations by the programmatic leads and ultimately decides whether or not to trigger the FSCPP. All elements are timebound so that the identification of the emerging crisis and subsequent mobilization of scaled up operations can be as early as possible.



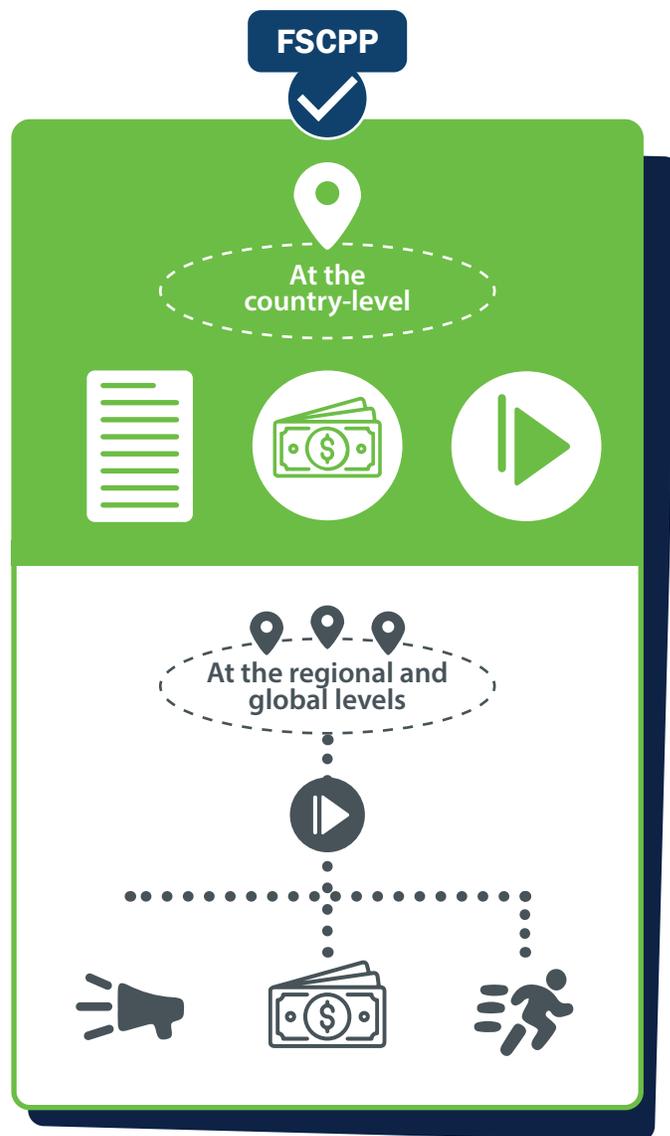
⁸ The FSCPP arrangements also provide value in non-escalation scenarios. For instance, existing monitoring systems and related consultative mechanisms and platforms may be utilized to address situations which may not require FSCPP triggering but could benefit from more strategic allocations of existing investments and responses across partners.

5

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AN FSCPP IS TRIGGERED?

The triggering of an FSCPP is a recognition that the country is facing significant risks that could lead to a major FNS crisis. To help raise the profile of these risks, the government and country-level senior representatives will agree on issuing a **joint statement** reflecting the consensus reached and to call on all partners to scale up early responses to get ahead of the crisis. The joint statement is the culmination of the decision-making process for collectively recognizing the emerging crisis. This recognition will help facilitate the **mobilization of contingency resources**, where available, across government and its partners, adaptive programming measures, and the **mobilization of key activities** pre-identified in the FSCPP. Senior representatives will also monitor the scale up of resources and responses.

At the regional and global-levels, FSCPP triggering will be “live tracked” by the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS) **Food and Nutrition Security Dashboard**⁹ in close collaboration with the *Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC)*. In the event a country triggers its FSCPP, GAFS will **notify global/regional senior representatives** and help facilitate the convening of these senior representatives to raise awareness and promote accountability and additional resource mobilization to bolster country responses.¹⁰ These senior representatives will be drawn from the humanitarian, development, and peace spectrum and will be comprised of MDBs, IFIs, bilateral donors, the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations (NGO) partners. Additionally, the GAFS Dashboard will track and report on the status of scaled up financing and responses until the crisis abates.¹¹



9 GAFS was launched in Berlin, Germany, on May 19, 2022 during the Group of Seven (G7) Development Ministers Meeting as a way to address the emerging global food security and nutrition crisis. GAFS is supported by humanitarian and development partners, regional organizations, and governments. The objective of GAFS is to catalyze an agile, immediate, and coordinated response to the unfolding global food and nutrition security crisis as an act of solidarity in support of those most affected. The GAFS Dashboard brings together in one place the latest global and country-level information on food crisis severity, global food security financing, and innovative research to strengthen crisis response and resilience. GAFS and the Dashboard will support FSCPPs by providing an efficient means for bringing these plans into a centralized platform to “live track” FSCPP trigger status and support the coordination of global/regional FNS partners to collectively recognize the emerging crisis and quickly catalyze and track scaled up financing and action to respond. <https://www.gafs.info/>

10 Alternative actions could also be explored such as reprogramming, etc.

11 These special arrangements will remain in place until senior representatives issue a joint statement indicating that the acute shock(s) no longer poses a risk of a major FNS crisis. The senior representatives will then task the programmatic leads to conduct a review of the performance of the FSCPP operational arrangements, highlighting lessons learned and areas of improvement to be integrated into an updated version of the FSCPP to strengthen operational arrangements and collaborations among FNS partners.

6

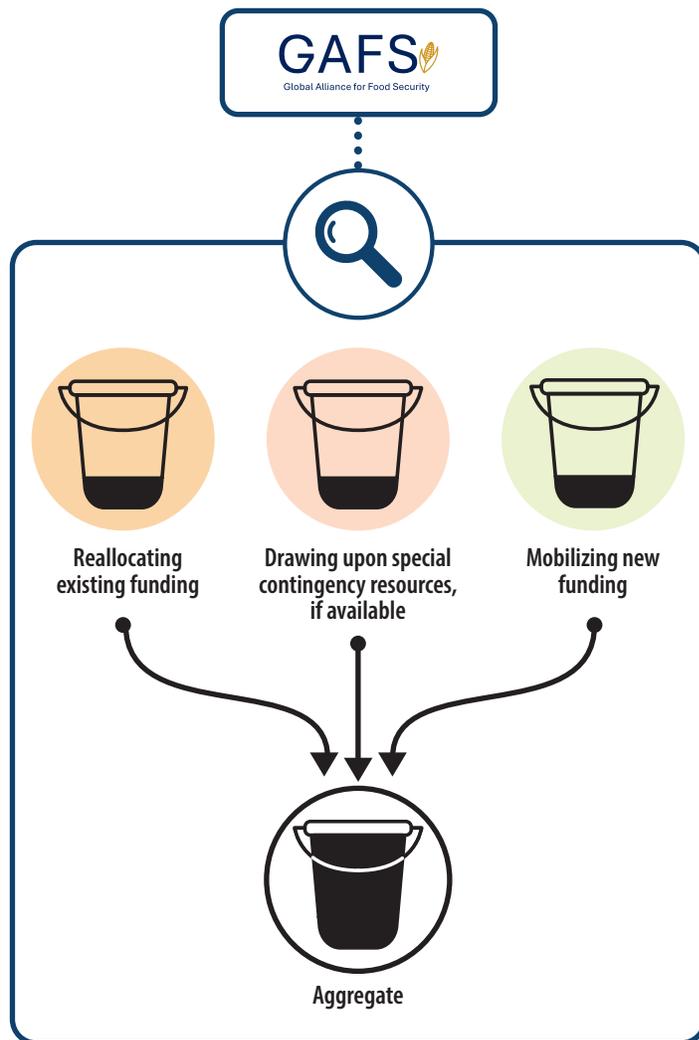
IS FUNDING RELEASED WHEN AN FSCPP IS TRIGGERED, AND, IF SO, WHERE DOES THIS FUNDING COME FROM AND WHO RECEIVES IT?

To scale up responses to an emerging crisis, additional funding needs to be mobilized across government and all partners. The ability to tap into additional funding, however, varies significantly across these stakeholders. Some, for instance, may have greater capacity to mobilize additional resources on their own while others may be reliant on specific funding streams or donors. Additionally, funding streams may have caps and/or specific terms which may limit how the funding can be used, when funds can be accessed, and who can receive these funds. The objective of the FSCPP is to amplify, comprehensively track, and expand (without replacing or replicating) financing modalities.

While it is difficult to generalize, there are typically 3 options for mobilizing resources during an FNS crisis, namely:

- 1) **Reallocating existing funding;**¹²
- 2) **Drawing upon special contingency resources, if available;**¹³
- 3) **Mobilizing new funding.**¹⁴

Tracking these options across government, humanitarian, development, and peace partners, especially during a crisis, is exceedingly difficult. That said, GAFS is currently undertaking a comprehensive stock take of these financing modalities and the ways in which they can be tracked – information that will be useful for informing FSCPPs. In principle, when an FSCPP is triggered, all of these options will be explored in a systematic way by government and its supporting FNS partners to mobilize additional funding, where possible and in a timely manner. Additionally, FSCPP global/regional arrangements will establish dedicated links with senior representatives across the international system to promote additional resource mobilization when FSCPPs are triggered.



12 These resources do not represent new or additional funding but financing which has been reallocated or shifted from existing portfolios or within strategic planning frameworks to respond to an FNS crisis. Some partners may have discretion or specific modalities (e.g., crisis modifiers) to reallocate funds across country/regional portfolios. For instance, at the country-level, the World Bank can activate Contingent Emergency Response Components (CERCs) which can be embedded in projects and used to reallocate funding from standard project operations in the event an emergency occurs.

13 These resources – typically set aside as a “rainy day” fund – are designed to respond specifically to emerging food and nutrition security crises. For some, these set asides may have FNS crises written into their modus operandi whereas others may have a more general / global pool of contingency resources that can be drawn upon for various crises (one of which would include FNS crises). Some examples of such financing modalities include the FAO Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation (SFERA), IMF Food Shock Window, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and the World Bank’s Crisis Response Window Early Response Financing (CRW ERF).

14 These resources represent new funding – i.e., additional to already existing and/or planned funding – mobilized in response to an FNS crisis. For some donors, mobilizing new funding may require approval by senior administrators, congresses/parliaments, and/or Boards. This could also include raising additional funding in the markets (e.g., bond issuances) or via special appeals.

7 HOW DOES THE FSCPP WORK WITH EXISTING COORDINATION MECHANISMS AT COUNTRY- AND GLOBAL-LEVELS?

A central tenet of the FSCPP is to leverage existing coordination mechanisms and structures as much as possible.

At the country level, this applies to each of the 3 elements referenced earlier to trigger the FSCPP. Existing structures are reviewed to assess if the FSCPP elements are already being fulfilled fully, partially, or not at all. Additionally, a critical lens is applied to determine the extent to which all relevant partners – government, humanitarian, and development – are engaged in these existing structures. In many contexts, particularly those affected by fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV), humanitarian coordination systems provide an important starting point such as those led by the Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs). Determining which existing structures can fulfill the FSCPP elements – and whether new ways of working or arrangements are needed – requires a collaborative approach with all relevant stakeholders.

On the development side, the UN system works through a United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) that determines its engagement and investments over a five-year period and is led by the Resident Coordinator's Office. Major donors and IFIs, however, work according to their respective country engagement strategies as agreed with government counterparts. Often present in countries are sectoral working groups that are established under the Government's leadership and co-chaired by other development partners to spearhead collective working arrangements among various stakeholders. Depending on the nature of the shock in country, coordination and engagement with the relevant sectoral working groups should be considered. These collaborations are facilitated by dedicated FSCPP technical workshops and working groups and follow a consensus-based approach.

At the global/regional level, there are important existing coordination mechanisms, particularly on the humanitarian side such as the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), among others. That said, it is generally agreed that there is no single forum that systematically brings together all relevant stakeholders at the same time when FNS crises occur – a critical missing piece in raising collective awareness and promoting additional resource mobilization across the fullness of the international system. The establishment of a dedicated process for bringing together these senior representatives on a more systematic basis, specifically when FSCPPs are triggered, is being explored by a dedicated coalition of global partners.¹⁵

As currently envisioned, this process will prioritize working with and through existing coordination mechanisms pending support and buy-in from respective Secretariates and senior leadership.

¹⁵ Partners include the FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, GAFA, the Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC), and the Office of the United Nations Famine Prevention and Response Coordinator (OFPRC), alongside several donor partners.

8

AS A NATIONALLY LED AND OWNED PROCESS, HOW DOES THE FSCPP ACCOUNT FOR THE DIVERSITY OF OPERATIONAL CONTEXTS, INCLUDING FRAGILE AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED SITUATIONS (FCS)?

Government leadership and ownership of the FSCPP is important for the sustainability of the process. It is also critical for ensuring that institutional and human capacities are strengthened to respond to future FNS crises – a critical part of longer-term development objectives and national financial planning. The operational involvement of international partners will depend on the capacity and needs of governments and will be agreed with them. In Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations (FCS) and in contexts where government is not internationally recognized, these partners are expected to play a greater role. Such exceptional circumstances will take into account humanitarian principles.

Additionally, the FSCPP is not a means for impeding or forcing any partner to act outside of its mandate or modus operandi. Instead, the FSCPP operates at a higher level by providing a timebound process for facilitating collective recognition of an emerging crisis, helping to catalyze early and additional resource mobilization across humanitarian, development, and peace communities and to ensure a coordinated response is complementary and coherent across the different actors. The implementation of this scaled up support will continue to follow the operating frameworks and procedures employed by each partner.

9

WHAT IS THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE FSCPP?

The development of the FSCPP follows a highly consultative and consensus-based approach. While the FSCPP development process will be unique to each country based on their respective capacities, needs, and priorities, there are generally **4 stages of the drafting process**.

The first stage involves initial government preparations to design planning processes, appointing a lead ministry/ ministries and technical focal points from relevant government agencies, and onboarding additional technical support, including consultants if needed.

The second stage involves stocktaking of risk monitoring systems, financing, and coordination structures. It also includes early bilateral consultations with FNS partners and initial drafting of the FSCPP.

The third stage involves technical workshops and working group meetings with technical focal points from government, humanitarian, and development partners to build out the elements of the plan and refine the draft FSCPP.

The fourth stage involves finalizing the plan, receiving formal endorsement by relevant government ministries and supporting FNS partners, and integration of the final FSCPP operational arrangements into the GAFS FNS Dashboard to facilitate live tracking. Once an FSCPP is endorsed and launched by government and partners supporting the FSCPP operational arrangements, the FSCPP will be updated as needed and on a regular basis to ensure it remains fit for purpose. Most FSCPPs are expected to be drafted by the end of CY23. Country teams interested in being part of the development process should contact focal points listed in the [FSCPP Brochure](#).