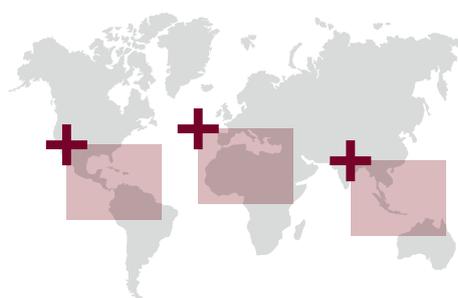


FoodSECuRE – Food Security Climate Resilience Facility



AT A GLANCE

Name

Food Security Climate Resilience Facility (FoodSECuRE)

Duration

2015 – ongoing

Focus area

Guatemala, Niger, Sudan, Philippines and Zimbabwe

Target group

Food insecure rural communities whose livelihood is highly vulnerable to climate risks

Funds available

US\$ 2 million (Kingdom of Norway)

The project is jointly implemented by ...

World Food Programme (WFP) with technical support from the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)

The core objective is ...

to financially and programmatically support community-centred early action to reinforce and build climate resilience.



BACKGROUND

Climate change disproportionately affects the most food-insecure people around the world, most of whom live in countries that are prone to natural hazards and face high levels of environmental degradation. It is estimated that by 2050, both the risk of hunger and child malnutrition could increase by 20 percent each. Climate disasters will have a large role in these increases.

APPROACH

FoodSECuRE is a financial and programmatic tool that will trigger action before, during and after climate disasters:

- **Window I:** Anticipatory action based on climate forecasts. FoodSECuRE uses seasonal climate forecasts to trigger action for community resilience-building and for preparedness to reduce the impact of climate disasters before they occur.
- **Window II:** Early response. FoodSECuRE will complement existing, governmentled emergency response mechanisms (e.g. through the African Risk Capacity) to accelerate the coverage of climate risk insurance to more Africans, while building the capacity of national governments to respond to large-scale climate shocks.
- **Window III:** Post-disaster resilience building. FoodSECuRE will provide predictable multi-year funding after a climate disaster to ensure food and nutrition security are strengthened over time.

The development and operationalization of the FoodSECuRE into a globally effective facility started in 2015 in: Guatemala, Niger, Sudan, Philippines and Zimbabwe. Countries were selected based on a range of criteria, including recurrence of climatic shock; operational experience and absorptive capacity; and national and regional forecasting capability.

Challenges

With regards to the development of a scientifically sound tailored forecasting and trigger tool, the availability and access to relevant long-term time series of meteorological (station) data (e.g. precipitation, temperature) is challenging, especially for countries where conflict and changes in government structures are frequent. This kind of data is key to test and calibrate indicators and thresholds used in the forecasting mechanism.

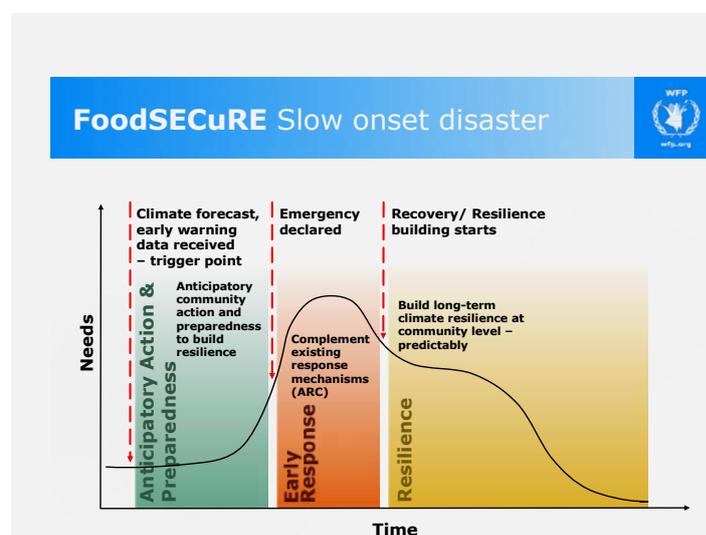
The Food Security Climate Resilience (FoodSECuRE) Facility is a multilateral, multiyear, replenishable fund being developed by WFP to financially and programmatically support community-centred action to reinforce and build climate resilience. This ground breaking instrument specifically links climate and hazard forecasting with flexible multiyear financing, providing governments the means to quickly unlock funding to scale-up food and nutrition responses as well as disaster risk reduction activities before climate disasters occur.

Opportunities

Through innovations like FoodSECuRE, WFP can further provide support to countries to build national systems and tools to enable governments and humanitarian community to anticipate climate shocks and take early action. It could also provide an opportunity to empower communities through readily available climate information for better decision making.

Responses to climate disasters had focused largely on post-disaster response rather than anticipating these shocks and ensuring predictable mechanisms to build resilience through post disaster recovery activities. WFP recognizes that preparedness and early response to a disaster and the building of people's resilience save both lives, livelihoods and money.

A 2015 Cost Benefit Analysis (ex ante) FoodSECuRE in Sudan and Niger suggests that early action using a climate triggered forecast mechanism would reduce the cost of emergency response by approximately 50%. Further, the economic argument for investment in multi-year resilience programming is unequivocal. The net cost of late response is five to seven times higher than multiyear resilience building.





OUTCOME

FoodSECuRE was fast-tracked to respond early to the impacts of drought in the context El Niño 2015 in Guatemala and Zimbabwe. The fast-track response enabled to successfully test the forecast-based finance window of the facility in Zimbabwe and Guatemala ahead of the impacts of the anticipated droughts. In both cases, resources were released before poor agricultural seasons to help farmers implement measures to reduce the impacts of droughts.

In Zimbabwe, WFP with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture's extension service (AGRITEX) field-tested the FoodSECuRE Window I Early Action modality in five wards of Mwenezi district to bolster the resilience capacity of affected small holder farmer households through promoting the cultivation of traditional drought tolerant small grains (Sorghum). AGRITEX provided extension officers in the 5 wards of Mwenezi district reaching lead farmers. The lead farmers cascaded the training through practical demonstrations

to ordinary farmers. AGRITEX also have supervisors at district level who provided support to the wards level extension officers. Initial results are promising: FoodSECuRE activities led to 11 percent more agricultural production value (in USD) compared to non-benefiting households. The food security situation for households benefiting from these early action interventions could be stabilized.

In Guatemala, WFP in coordination with Ministry of Agriculture field-tested FoodSECuRE Window I Early Action and Window II Early Response modalities to reinforce the resilience capacity of drought-affected smallholder farmers households in the Sinaneca community of San Jorge municipality, through soil and water conservation structures, building small rain water harvesting structures for irrigation purposes, provision of drought resistant seeds, training of leading farmers on soil water and agroforestry activities, and agriculture and water management activities.

LESSONS LEARNED

Partnerships and collaboration are key to success. For example, in Zimbabwe, the AGRITEX department in coordination with FAO played a key role in the identification of suppliers of appropriate inputs for the targeted district and they linked the identified suppliers with the targeted farmers at ward level. FAO guided the identification of appropriate local/traditional drought tolerant small grains for the project.



CONTACT

Selamawit OGBACHRISTOS

Senior Programme Policy Officer

E selamawit.ogbachtostos@wfp.org

Baas BRIMER

Programme Policy Officer

E baas.brimer@wfp.org

Websites

For more information on the project visit:

www.wfp.org/climate-change/initiatives/foodsecure

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