



SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

The Arab States region relies heavily on food imports, making it vulnerable to the unpredictability and inequities of global trade. Agricultural productivity is low in many countries, and agricultural practices are often unsustainable, diminishing the medium- and long-term availability and the affordability of food. Water scarcity, climate change and increasing urbanization exacerbate the situation. Hunger and undernourishment are rising, especially as a result of conflict, but pockets of deep chronic hunger are also found across the region. Progress on SDG 2 depends on structured and tailored investment in sustainable agriculture, the broader use of knowledge and technologies to increase agricultural productivity and resiliency, where possible, and an end to conflict. Regional cooperation is essential to shore up resilience as well as to advance a common agenda to improve the governance of global trade.

Key facts



Conflict has increased levels of undernourishment in the region.¹ Two thirds of people who are hungry are in conflict-affected countries,² which have seen the widespread destruction of productive infrastructure, heavy disruption to food value chains and the frequent abandonment of agricultural land due to damage or population displacement.

> 25% The region has the highest rate of food imports in the world; many countries record significant food trade deficits. The region imports more than 25 per cent of the wheat traded on world markets.⁶

37.6%

Stunting affects 37.6 per cent of children under 5 years of age in the least developed countries. Concerning rates have also been recorded in other countries, including Egypt, where the rate was 22.3 per cent in 2014. In 2009 in the Syrian Arab Republic, even before the conflict there, the rate stood at 27 per cent.⁷ Levels of wasting among children range from 3.3 per cent in the Maghreb to 16 per cent in the least developed countries.



Inadequate access to food for the poor and the displaced is often compounded by inadequate services for health care as well as water and sanitation, hampering the proper uptake of nutrients.³



The majority of infants under 6 months old in the region are not exclusively breastfed.⁸ Compared to other regions, Arab and neighbouring countries have the highest estimated percentage loss in gross national income due to cognitive deficits associated with infant feeding practices (0.98 per cent). The rate is double the global average (0.49 per cent).⁹

The majority of **undernourished people** live in rural areas

Undernourishment is concentrated in the least developed countries—25.2 per cent of the population in the Sudan in 2016 and 34.4 per cent in Yemen. High levels have also been reported in other countries, including Iraq at 27.7 per cent.⁴ The majority of undernourished people live in rural areas where agriculture is often the main source of livelihoods.⁵

Obesity

Obesity rates in the Arab region are among the highest in the world, especially among women and in GCC countries. Obesity figures are estimated at 33 per cent in the GCC countries, 28 per cent for the Mashreq, 23 per cent for the Maghreb and 9 per cent for the least developed countries.¹⁰

7% share of GDP

Agriculture comprises a 7 per cent share of GDP in the region, yet it is the main source of employment and livelihoods for about 38 per cent of the population.¹¹ It contributes 23 per cent of GDP in the least developed countries.¹²



Employment in agriculture as a share of total employment ranges from 9.4 per cent in Algeria to 19 per cent in Iraq and almost 38 per cent in Morocco.¹³ In the least developed countries, it is 35 per cent in Yemen; 40 to 50 per cent in Comoros, Djibouti, Mauritania and the Sudan; and 72 per cent in Somalia.¹⁴

0.28

Public investment in agriculture in the region is low relative to other economic sectors. The region's agriculture orientation index stands at only 0.28, half the world mean and the second lowest of all regions.¹⁵

2080 Regional agricultural output could decrease by 21 per cent by 2080 as a result of climate change.¹⁶ The yields of some crops could decline by 30 to 60 per cent in some areas if no action is taken to counter rising temperatures and changes in rainfall patterns.¹⁷

1.9% The average population growth rate of the 22 Arab countries from 2015 to 2020 was 1.9 per cent yearly, among the fastest rates in the world, surpassed only by Africa at 2.5 per cent.¹⁸ Rapid population growth increases demand for food, pressures natural resources and contributes to rising urbanization.

70%



By 2050, close to 70 per cent of the region's population will be living in cities, which will change lifestyles and land use, and widen the gap between the region's ability to produce food and rising demand and consumption.¹⁹

Measuring SDG 2 in the Arab region according to the global SDG indicator framework

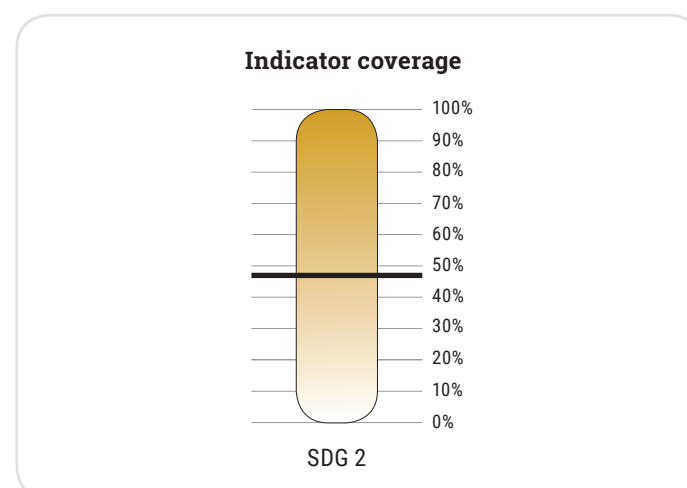
Data are available for 6 out of 13 indicators, covering 4 out of 8 targets under SDG 2.

National averages can be misleading in relation to SDG 2, given the concentration of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in rural areas, or in urban pockets of the poor and/or displaced. Subnational figures, where available, are more telling.

The targets under SDG 2 are varied. Some aspects of food security are addressed in targets under other goals. An example is the reduction of food waste and loss, which appears under SDG 12, target 12.3.

The Arab region lacks data for indicators under targets on agricultural productivity and its sustainability. There is a considerable shortage in agricultural data related to water use and land degradation (SDGs 6 and 15). These are crucial in a region characterized by water scarcity and acute vulnerability to climate change.

Robust data are also needed on trade imbalances—an area of great concern—because agriculture remains a main source of income for many countries, and the region is overreliant on food imports, especially staples.



Given the dearth of data, it is difficult to gauge the gender divide under SDG 2, which is measured in target 2.2 on the nutritional needs of adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women, as well as target 2.3 on access to land and productive resources, knowledge, financing, etc. The lack of information limits the ability of policymakers to assess, for example, the health implications of nutritional gaps for pregnant women and the fetuses they carry.

SDG 2 CONTAINS ONE TARGET TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2020

TARGET 2.5 - Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

SDG 2 CONTAINS ONE TARGET TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2025

TARGET 2.2 - By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

The main barriers to ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture in the Arab region

SDG 2 is multidimensional and interlinked with poverty (SDG 1), health (SDG 3), fisheries, agriculture and land and water use (SDGs 6, 7, 14 and 15), consumption and production patterns (SDGs 8 and 12), global trade governance (SDG 17), inequality within and between countries (SDG 10) as well as climate change (SDG 13).

The various dimensions of SDG 2 manifest differently across the region. Conflict and forced displacement have increased hunger and food insecurity in many places.

For the **least developed countries**, a lack of food security is an individual and a national concern. It encompasses poverty and hunger, and alarming rates of stunting. This is compounded by the prevalence of illness, including from waterborne diseases, and uneven access to and availability of health-care services.

For most of the **Mashreq and Maghreb** countries, a substantial number of people who are food insecure are poor and living in rural areas where agriculture remains the main employer. For these countries, there is a pressing need to improve sustainable agricultural production, with a focus on water conservation and better yields, and to address global trade imbalances.

For the **GCC countries**, food security is primarily perceived in terms of the availability of and dependence on imports, given both water scarcity and a lack of

Arab **research centres and universities** are utilizing biotechnology and innovative solutions to address inherited productivity and sustainability challenges. In addition to genetically modified seeds, safe fertilizers, and smart irrigation, harvesting, transportation, storage and distribution, they are addressing food loss and waste as an emerging issue. Efforts to apply new knowledge and innovative technologies to increase productivity, while taking into account water scarcity, energy demands and land degradation, are promising but not sufficiently scaled up.

In **Somalia**, almost 48 per cent of the population lacks access to an adequate source of drinking water. Over 60 per cent lacks access to adequate sanitation. There is only one doctor for every 43,000 people. All of these shortfalls undoubtedly contribute to high levels of undernutrition and micronutrient deficiency.

Source: WHO and UNICEF, 2019; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019a.

arable land. An abundance of food does not rule out malnutrition, as unhealthy and unsustainable consumption patterns are increasing obesity and illness.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE KEY BARRIERS TO ACHIEVING SDG 2 IN THE ARAB REGION

Low productivity and resiliency of agricultural systems

Agriculture is the main source of income for the majority of people in rural areas across the region, with levels of productivity affecting both the availability of food and the ability to access food.



While agricultural strategies exist, they have not achieved significantly better productivity or stronger resiliency to desertification and water scarcity. Productivity—affecting the amount of food produced in relation to existing land and water resources, the nutritional value of crops as well as the return on investment of different yields—has waned in the past few decades compared to other regions. Water scarcity and climate change have a negative impact across the region, including in terms of the availability of agricultural land and water, notwithstanding the variations among countries. Weak infrastructure and low public and private investment in agriculture and related technology compound the problem.²⁰ The low efficiency of agricultural practices further depletes natural resources and contributes to food loss.

In addition, a lack of investment in rural development generally has prompted migration to urban areas. Rising urbanization is in turn expanding encroachment on agricultural land and increasing demand for food products.

The population of the region is projected to be 520 million by 2030 and 676 million by 2050. Rapid population growth is also a driver of food insecurity as demand increases and supply decreases.²¹ Increasing dependence on food imports further threatens the region's self-reliance in terms of food.

Vulnerability to trade imbalances and shocks



Due to a combination of low productivity and increased demand, the Arab region is the world's largest importer of food, especially cereals. Global supply shortages and price volatility, heightened by climate change, macroeconomic instability and fluctuating oil prices, all strain the ability of Arab countries to access and/or afford food staples sustainably. A key concern is trade deficits, with countries spending a high share of their export earnings on food imports. The share stands at 5 per cent for GCC countries, almost at par with the global average. For the Mashreq countries, however, it is 30 per cent, and for the Maghreb around 10 per cent. For the least developed countries, it ranges from 15 per cent to 30 per cent for Mauritania, the Sudan and Yemen, up to an alarming 200 to 400 per cent in some instances for Comoros, Djibouti and Somalia.²²

The global trade system can have detrimental effects on Arab countries, which often bear the consequences of export restrictions originating outside the region. In addition, the lack of mechanisms to keep food prices predictable wreaks havoc on the ability of smaller and importing countries, and especially Arab least developed countries, to import food staples.

Poverty



The inability to afford adequate and nutritious food impacts millions of people in the region. Beyond constraining access to food in general and nutritious food in particular, poverty manifests in other indicators of well-being, particularly in limiting access to adequate health care (SDG 3) and to clean water and sanitation (SDG 6). The combination of these factors inhibits the body's ability to use food properly, placing the poor at greater risk of a myriad of diseases. The result is not only hunger, but undernutrition, anaemia, and in some cases, stunting and illness.

The poor in the Arab region are generally concentrated in rural areas; so are the food insecure. Rising urbanization, however, is now swelling the numbers of impoverished people in cities. Increased urbanization has the added effect of slowing food production as agricultural areas lose both land and inhabitants.

Conflict



The average level of hunger in the region has been rising since 2011, mainly due to increased hunger in conflict-affected countries. There, indicators of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition are already three to five times higher than in the rest of the region. Recent calculations for Iraq, Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan and Yemen indicate that undernutrition reached 26 per cent of the population from 2015 to 2017, compared to 5 per cent for non-conflict countries in the region.²³ Conflict has destroyed agricultural land, decreased productivity and weakened public health systems, resulting in disease outbreaks, including vaccine-preventable and waterborne diseases.²⁴ Conflict and displacement are also the major causes of increased hunger and undernourishment in countries hosting refugees.

Climate change



Rises in temperatures decrease crop yields, and impact the availability of food and the livelihoods of inhabitants in rural areas. Climate change is further linked to macroeconomic instability as well as migration and conflict, with droughts in some countries contributing to riots and domestic instability. While countries have introduced natural disaster risk reduction strategies, these have not been adequately applied, in part due to a lack of appropriate funding.

Unsustainable and unhealthy consumption patterns across the region



The region has the highest rate of obesity in the world. Obesity is on the increase even in some of the least developed countries.²⁵ Overreliance on meat and cereals, and lack of physical exercise, among other factors, threaten health and the ability to absorb nutrients properly. For some countries, food subsidies and urbanization are primarily responsible for increasing malnutrition, including obesity, as well as a number of health deficits. The diet of the average person in the region consists largely of cereals, sugar and oil, all subsidized commodities. Wheat intake in the Arab region is double the world average; much of it is refined. This diet, combined with low levels of physical activity among the urbanizing population, increases the risk of obesity.²⁶

The ongoing **conflict in Yemen**, now in its fourth year, has devastated lives and livelihoods and resulted in a fast and serious deterioration in food security and nutrition for millions of people. In December 2018, 20.1 million people were severely food insecure, half of them in an extremely severe situation where urgent action is needed to save lives and livelihoods (IPC phase 4, “emergency”^{*}).

An estimated 2 million children and more than 1 million pregnant and lactating women are suffering from moderate or acute malnutrition. Stunting levels are among the highest in the world and still increasing, affecting one out of two children under age 5.

The collapse of the economy and public infrastructures and services, compounded by the loss of livelihoods and disruption of food production, has not only severely compromised the humanitarian and food security situation, but also eroded the coping mechanisms of already extremely vulnerable populations.

^{*}According to the definition in IPC, 2019.

Source: WFP, 2018.

Traditional foodways and local farming, pastoral, fishing, hunting and food preservation systems, passed on from generation to generation, can significantly contribute to food and nutrition security.

Supporting **traditional knowledge and practices** linked to nature as manifestations of the intangible cultural heritage of communities, is underemphasized in the region. Greater attention to these issues could contribute to the global call to maintain the “genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants...promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge” as per target 2.5.

Importing one ton of wheat in the Netherlands costs an average of \$11. In the Arab region, it costs around \$40. Legal, institutional and logistical barriers inflate the **cost of trade** and encumber intraregional trade, which is low in the region. Intraregional trade in the Arab region was 27 per cent in 2017, excluding petroleum exports, compared to 64 per cent for countries in the European Union.

Source: ESCWA and FAO, 2017a; UNDP, 2018; World Bank and FAO, 2012.

At risk of being left behind

In the Arab region, **the poor, refugees and displaced people** are at risk of being left behind when it comes to SDG 2. More data are needed, however, along with better methodologies to measure the distribution of food and the equality of consumption in households. For example, while young children and women of childbearing age have specific dietary needs, not enough data exist to ascertain whether those needs are being met.

Female-headed households are also at heightened risk as women have less access to employment, land ownership and opportunities in general, and therefore less access to food and nutrition.

The **Arab least developed countries** are particularly vulnerable, lagging far behind on the different

dimensions of SDG 2. This vulnerability manifests in higher levels of hunger and malnutrition, and greater reliance on food imports with attendant risks from trade imbalances.

Arab women are overwhelmingly employed in the agricultural sector, with the percentage of females exceeding 37 per cent in Egypt, 50 per cent in Iraq and 60 per cent in Morocco. In contrast, the percentage of female agricultural holders (SDG 5.a) is quite low across the region, not exceeding 7 per cent according to some studies.

Source: FAO, 2019; ESCWA and FAO, 2017a.

What the region can do to accelerate progress on SDG 2

While ending conflict is necessary to stem displacement and increasing rates of hunger across the region, achieving SDG 2 also requires both medium- and long-term policy approaches that tackle the complexity of food security in relation to the sustainable use of natural resources, equitable access to and affordability of food, and the self-reliance of countries and the region in a volatile global context.

1. Strengthen the shift towards more sustainable agricultural systems:

- Scale up existing attempts in the region, review frameworks and implement comprehensive strategies to increase agricultural production and productivity where viable, and increase investment accordingly.
- Utilize innovative, contextualized technologies to improve water-use efficiency and productivity.
- Increase yields and diversify crops using traditional knowledge and indigenous crops where relevant.
- Improve infrastructure for agricultural value chains to reduce food loss and waste.
- Strengthen the commitment to implementing natural disaster risk reduction strategies.

2. Invest in rural transformation and development:

- Enhance investment in sustainable agriculture; introduce mechanisms to support small and medium-size farms; and enable farmers groups (cooperatives) to provide feasible alternative services across value chains (upstream and downstream).
- Support rural development through the creation of decent rural employment including the revival and generation of small and medium agro-industries, and the resumption of supplies of industrial inputs to agriculture.
- Enhance regional cooperation and integration in R&D and innovation for agricultural development with a focus on economies of scale, increasing productivity and access to markets, and supporting centres of excellence.
- Link agricultural strategies to rural development strategies to eliminate poverty, enhance health services and support infrastructure development.

3. Promote dietary changes and support a shift towards healthier consumption patterns:

- Promote early childhood nutrition to address both undernutrition and obesity, and reduce the intake of saturated fat, sugars, salt and trans-fat.
- Ensure that nutrition services are integrated within primary health-care services.
- Promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture and more diversified production as appropriate to the needs and resources at the national and local levels.
- Adapt national frameworks for the acceleration of efforts to improve nutrition and food security through

4. Build capacity through knowledge and technology transfer:

- Systematize knowledge and technology transfers to build the capacity of farmers, women farmers and others in accordance with target 2.a, and capitalize on traditional knowledge wherever possible.

5. Enhance the capacity of the region in trade negotiations:

- Unify trade positions where possible and share information on food trade systematically among Arab countries.
- Enhance intraregional trade in part through simplifying and harmonizing logistical and legal processes, and support the emergence of an Arab customs union.

6. Bridge humanitarian and development objectives to support sustainable agriculture:

- Design programmes in conflict and post-conflict countries that bridge humanitarian and development objectives to lay the ground for sustainable agriculture in the medium and longer terms.

SDG 2 targets and indicators in the Arab region

Target

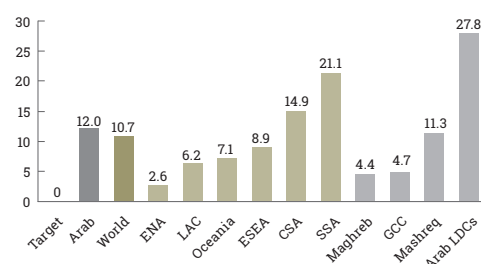
2.1
By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

Indicator

2.1.1
Prevalence of undernourishment

Data

Figure 1 Prevalence of undernourishment (percentage)



Note: According to United Nations Statistics Division metadata, this indicator is "an estimate of the proportion of the population whose habitual food consumption is insufficient to provide the dietary energy levels that are required to maintain a normal active and healthy life" (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The original dataset provided for this indicator includes data points such as "<2.5 per cent", indicating a value that is lower than 2.5 per cent, which we replace by 2.5. This then constitutes the minimum value (the floor) of the data series. All means are population weighted using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes data values for the following Arab countries in 2016: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

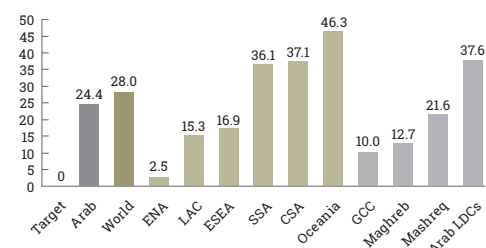
2.1.2
Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

2.2
By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

2.2.1
Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age

Figure 2 Proportion of children moderately or severely stunted (percentage)

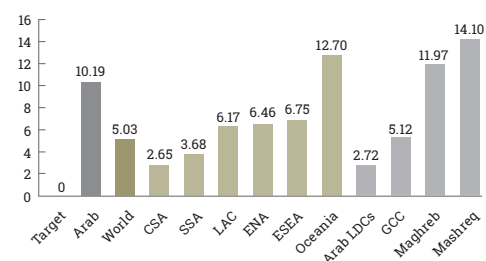


Note: All means are weighted by the population of children 0 to 5 years of age using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values for the following Arab countries and years: Somalia and Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Iraq and Morocco (2011), Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Jordan and Tunisia (2012), Yemen (2013), Egypt, Oman, State of Palestine and Sudan (2014), Kuwait and Mauritania (2015).

2.2.2

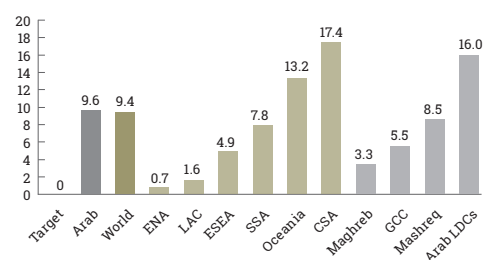
Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height $>+2$ or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)

Figure 3 Proportion of children moderately or severely overweight (percentage)



Note: All means are weighted by the population of children 0 to 5 years of age using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values for the following Arab countries and years: Somalia and Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Iraq and Morocco (2011), Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Jordan and Tunisia (2012), Yemen (2013), Egypt, Oman, State of Palestine and Sudan (2014), Kuwait and Mauritania (2015).

Figure 4 Proportion of children moderately or severely wasted (percentage)



Note: All means are weighted by the population of children 0 to 5 years of age using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values for the following Arab countries and years: Somalia and Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Iraq and Morocco (2011), Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Jordan and Tunisia (2012), Yemen (2013), Egypt, Oman, State of Palestine and Sudan (2014), Kuwait and Mauritania (2015).

2.3

By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

2.3.1

Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

2.3.2

Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

2.4

By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

2.4.1

Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

2.5

By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

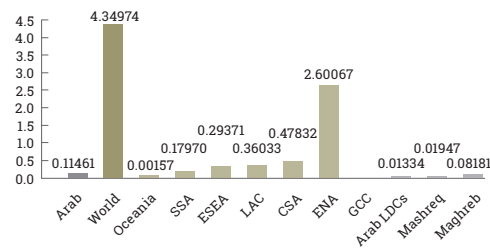
2.a

Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries

2.5.1

Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

Figure 5 Plant breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored (millions)



Note: Aggregates are the total sum of country values based on United Nations Statistics Division metadata (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries in 2017: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia.

2.5.2

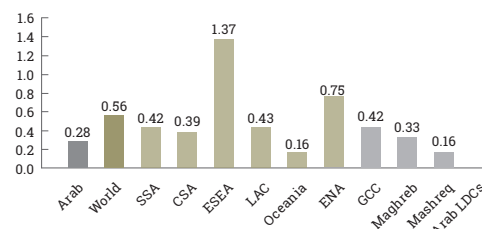
Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

2.a.1

The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures

Figure 6 Agriculture orientation index for government expenditures

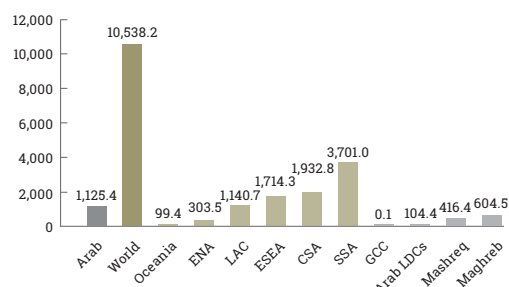


Note: As per United Nations Statistics Division metadata, "the Agriculture Share of Government Expenditures, divided by the Agriculture Share of GDP, where Agriculture refers to the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sectors. A ratio greater than 1 reflects a higher orientation towards the agriculture sector, which receives a higher share of government spending relative to its contribution to economic value-added. A ratio less than 1 reflects a lower orientation to agriculture, while a ratio equal to 1 reflects neutrality in a government's orientation to the agriculture sector" (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The United Nations Statistics Division provides several equations for calculating regional aggregates that call for more data series than available, so the regional means provided here are unweighted (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Algeria and Syrian Arab Republic (2009), State of Palestine (2011), Morocco and Tunisia (2012), Oman (2014), Jordan, Kuwait and United Arab Emirates (2015), Egypt and Lebanon (2016).

2.a.2

Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector

Figure 7 Total official flows (disbursements) for agriculture, by recipient countries (millions of constant 2017 United States dollars)



Note: Per United Nations Statistics Division metadata, "Global and regional figures are based on the sum of ODA and OOF flows to the agriculture sector" (United Nations Statistics Division 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Oman (2010), Libya (2016), Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen (2017).

<p>2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round</p>	<p>2.b.1 Agricultural export subsidies</p>	<p>Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.</p>
<p>2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility</p>	<p>2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies</p>	<p>Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.</p>

Note: Central and Southern Asia (CSA); Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (ESEA); Europe and Northern America (ENA); Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC); Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC); Arab Least Developed Countries (Arab LDCs); Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand); Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

All figures are based on the Global SDG Indicators Database (United Nations Statistics Division, 2018) except for updated data (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019a) on the following indicators: 2.1.1 [Prevalence of undernourishment (percentage)], 2.5.1 [Plant breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored (number)] and 2.a.2 [Total official flows (disbursements) for agriculture, by recipient countries (millions of constant 2017 United States dollars)].

ENDNOTES

1. FAO, 2018b.
2. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a; FAO, 2018b.
3. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a.
4. Compiled by ESCWA, see figure 1. For more information on country-level data, refer to the annex complementing this report.
5. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a.
6. Ibid.
7. Calculated by ESCWA, see figure 2.
8. Victora and others, 2016.
9. Rollins and others, 2016. The regional country grouping is according to the reference.
10. ESCWA and FAO, 2017b.
11. Ibid.
12. Calculated by ESCWA based on data from World Bank, 2019.
13. FAO, 2019; World Bank, 2019.
14. World Bank, 2019.
15. Calculated by ESCWA, see figure 6. The agriculture orientation index is calculated as the share of government expenditure on agriculture divided by the share of agriculture in GDP.
16. Cline, 2008.
17. World Bank, 2014.
18. United Nations Population Division, 2017.
19. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a.
20. ANND, 2019.
21. United Nations Population Division, 2017.
22. ESCWA and FAO, 2017b, p. 32.
23. FAO, 2018b, p. 3.
24. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a, p. 32.
25. ESCWA and FAO, 2017a.
26. Ibid.

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