



Organización de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Alimentación y la Agricultura

# Food Security Perspectives

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# Global Perspectives

- Preliminary estimates indicate that the pandemic may have added an additional 83 million to 132 million people worldwide in 2020 to the ranks of the hungry.
- Even with a recovery in 2021, future levels of hunger are expected to be higher than in the baseline scenario without the pandemic.
- In 2019, approximately 746 million people worldwide suffered from severe food insecurity, and an additional 1.3 billion from moderate food insecurity.
- At the global level, the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity is higher among women than men.
- Globally, the gender gap in food insecurity is larger among the less educated, poorer strata of the population, and in urban settings.





# Regional Perspectives-Latin America and the Caribbean

Figure 2/ Poverty, extreme poverty, unemployment and hunger observed and projected in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2019 and 2020





# Regional Perspectives-Latin America and the Caribbean

- The countries' transition phase goes from the beginning of physical distancing measures to the planning of their dismantling. The next phase, economic recovery, will take place when the pandemic is considered over. This phase, which has not yet begun, could last for years.
- The main focus has been on supporting and strengthening the production of food systems, even though it has not been the sector most affected by the crisis.
- The second most important measures are related to food, poverty and employment, which could be associated to social protection measures.

Table 2/ Actions implemented by countries to protect the food system and ensure food security.

| Actions   | Type  |
|---|---|
|  <b>Rapid assessment</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Impact assessment measures</li><li>• Quantification of damages and losses</li></ul>   |
|  <b>Trade</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Incentive for state and private purchases</li><li>• Marketing</li><li>• E-commerce</li><li>• Pricing</li><li>• Coordination between countries</li></ul>   |
|  <b>Food</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School feeding programmes</li><li>• Food basket</li><li>• Food security counselling</li></ul>   |
|  <b>Production</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased water resource efficiency</li><li>• Delivery of inputs, support to artisanal fisheries</li><li>• Delivery of credits and bonds</li><li>• Payment for environmental and ecosystem services</li></ul> |
|  <b>Poverty/employment</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training for economic recovery</li><li>• Social protection to ensure delivery of basic supplies</li><li>• Bank transfers to the most vulnerable</li></ul>   |

Source: FAO, based on an internal survey of the FAO Regional Office.



# REGIONAL CONVERSATION SERIES ON BUILDING BACK BETTER

## Rebuild and transform: Latin America

- The reconstruction phase should be the opportunity to rebuild by creating resilience to manage or handle future risks, namely, build back better.
- It has been stated that recovery with transformation of food systems must incorporate social, economic and environmental dimensions.



# Rebuild and transform: concrete initiatives

## Provision of public goods and infrastructure in lagging territories for post-pandemic recovery



**Objective:** develop integrated public goods infrastructure programmes for a post-pandemic recovery with transformation of 31 lagging territories, through the identification of needs and conditions for skilled and unskilled employment; development and management of these jobs; development of capacities and skills; improvement of infrastructure in access to water, digital connectivity, grain storage systems, drying plants, among others.

**Effects on transformation:** economic and productive inclusion of lagging territories in food systems and production chains of non-agricultural goods and services (ecosystems, community tourism, etc.) through access to public goods and quality infrastructure.

**Effects on recovery:** Rapid reactivation once the COVID-19 pandemic has been overcome through the generation of employment and the revitalisation of territorial economies due to an increase in local consumption. Then, generation of employment and dynamisation of local economies; strengthening the capacity of local governments and community/social organisations in resource management.

**Potential scope:** the candidate countries are Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic, and 31 territories identified in the framework of the 100 Territories free from Hunger and Poverty strategy and FAO's Hand-in-Hand initiative.

## Development of digital marketing capabilities for associative and cooperative agrifood companies



**Objective:** develop and install logistic, administrative, financial and technological capacity in countries of the region to migrate public-private associative entities and cooperatives to digital systems, through the increase of marketing capacities; development of new businesses and surveys of potential e-commerce markets; systematisation of product offers; articulation of buyers; promotion of associativism, among others.

**Effects on transformation:** enabling farmers to access online markets (e-commerce) which were previously inaccessible, with subsequent economic benefits.

**Effects on recovery:** employment generation (increasing number of farmers who are members of cooperatives), increase in sectoral/regional GDP, increase in income, strengthening of agrifood product marketing chains, increase in the productive capacity of producer associations and cooperatives.

**Potential scope:** it is projected to benefit a total of 5 754 people distributed in 58 cooperatives, that is, 5 percent of cooperative members in four countries (Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic).



# Rebuild and transform: concrete initiatives

## Wholesale and supply markets: modernisation, digitalisation and transparency



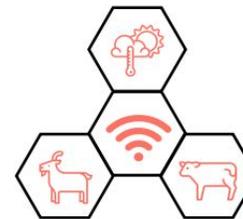
**Objective:** modernise markets and supply centres, promoting inclusive marketing technologies, innovation and adaptation of processes to implement digital business strategies. Application of circular economy criteria; intelligent management of water, energy, transport and solid waste; improvement of loss and waste management, market intelligence and logistics; and use of information systems to articulate supply and demand of food, electronic commerce, among others.

**Effects on transformation:** concrete improvements in supply markets to ensure food supply, inclusive marketing processes involving family farming and multi-sectoral economic development strategies in food supply.

**Effects on recovery:** strengthened supply centres that generate jobs and boost the local economy, improving their management through technological innovation, digitalisation and the generation of efficient food marketing processes, with price information management.

**Potential scope:** wholesale and central supply markets with national, provincial/state influence in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

## Climate-smart livestock farming



**Objective:** strategies that increase livestock productivity and producer income, while reducing land degradation, increasing the capacity to adapt to climate change and reducing GHG emissions. This would be achieved by strengthening coordination and institutional capacity to incorporate a climate-smart approach; implementing cross-sectoral policies, technologies and techniques for sustainable livestock production; monitoring GHG emissions and adaptive capacity in the livestock sector; and, managing and evaluating knowledge on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

**Effects on transformation:** reduction of the carbon footprint and deforestation of livestock activity; cost reduction, and improvements in efficiency in the use of critical inputs for livestock, decommodification of production, and access to niche markets.

**Effects on recovery:** there is a potential access of beneficiaries to financial mechanisms (credits) as a complementary element to the implementation of good practices. However, there is no evidence of a short-term recovery effect.

**Potential scope:** livestock farmers in Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Peru; people of various ethnic groups, indigenous peoples, and women.

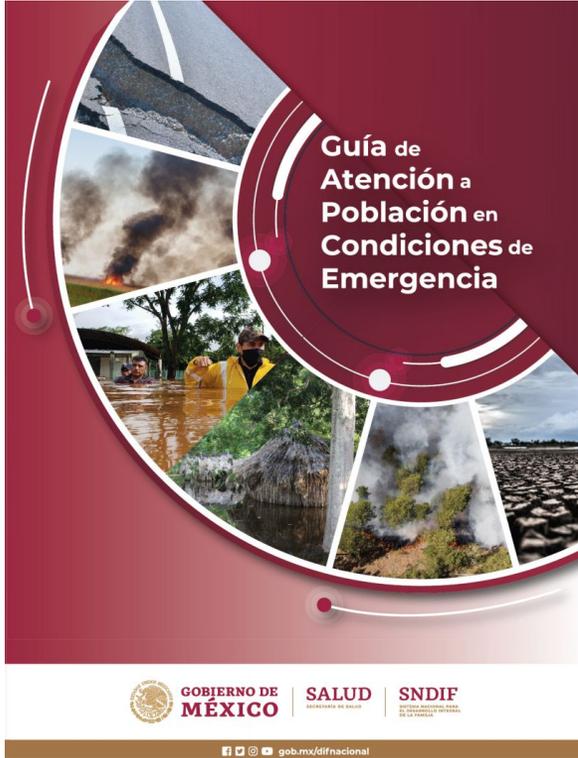
# Perspectives-Mexico

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# Perspectives-Mexico

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# Perspectives-Mexico

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School feeding program delivery has not stopped.





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Guía de Atención a la Población en Condiciones de Emergencia

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