



# **Impact Evaluation of Policies and projects for agricultural and rural development**

First Session - Evaluating the impact of Agricultural and rural development policies and projects

## ***Statistics for Food Security: FAO assessment of countries capacities for evidence based policy-making (EBPM)***

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Italian Pavillion, MilanExpo  
31 August 2015

# FAO's STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

**1. Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition**

**2. Make agriculture forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable**

**3. Reduce rural poverty**

**4. Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems**

**5. Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises**



# The FAO Strategic Framework

- Five strategic objectives (SO), with 17 outcomes and indicators planned for 2014-15
- Countries capacity for evidence based policy making (EBPM) is assessed and monitored through 15 indicators in four SOs (1, 2, 3 and 5)

**The right policies  
create lasting  
solutions.**

# The baseline assessment

- 1475 questionnaires have been collected and analyzed, 80 countries sample
- 6 types of respondents: UN, donors and financial institutions, academia, civil society and private sector
- Survey data was aggregated by respondent type, then at country level
- A score has been calculated for each indicator ranging from 0 to 1 and coded against five classes.
- Progress will refer to the number of countries that move at least from one class to the next by end 2015.
- The results presented are the baseline

# Assessing countries capacities for policy making: the indicators

- Built around the determinants of success for EBPM:
  - a. Capacity to design relevant policies
  - b. Good governance
  - c. Allocation of human and financial resources
  - d. Capacity to use information and data for analysis and decision making
- Derived combining the values of sub-indicators from survey and secondary data sources and desk reviews

# The indicators – how they work

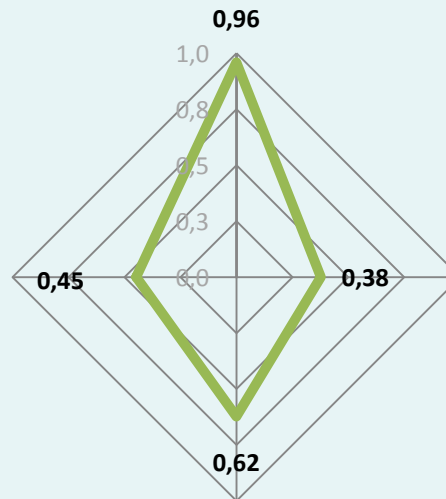
**Indicator 1.** Number of countries with improved comprehensive sectoral and/or cross sectoral policies/strategies and investment programmes, that are supported by a legal framework

- *existence of a current national cross- or multiple sectoral policies/strategies, which includes an explicit objective to improve food security and/or nutrition*
- *existence of a national government cross- or multiple sectoral investment programmes that addresses food security and/or nutrition*
- *level of comprehensive government policy and programming response to hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition*
- *existence of legal protection of the Right to Adequate Food*

- ✓ Scores are assigned on the basis of secondary data and the survey using following values:
  - 1 = existence of a cross-sector FS&N policy
  - 2/3 = different single sector policies with an explicit FS and nutrition objective
  - 1/3 = single sector policy
  - 0 = no policy with explicit FS and/or nutrition objective

# The baseline results – How it looks for one Country

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Country A</b>	<b>Global score (Median value)</b>
<i>1. Countries with improved comprehensive sectoral and/or cross-sectoral policies/strategies and investment programmes, that are supported by a legal framework</i>	0.958	0.622
<i>2. Countries with improved resource allocation (in terms of adequacy, efficiency and effectiveness) to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition</i>	0.377	0.411
<i>Countries with improved governance and coordination mechanisms for eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition</i>	0.623	0.521
<i>3. Countries with improved evidence and high quality analytical products generated through functional information systems in support of food security and nutrition policy and programming processes</i>	0.448	0.362



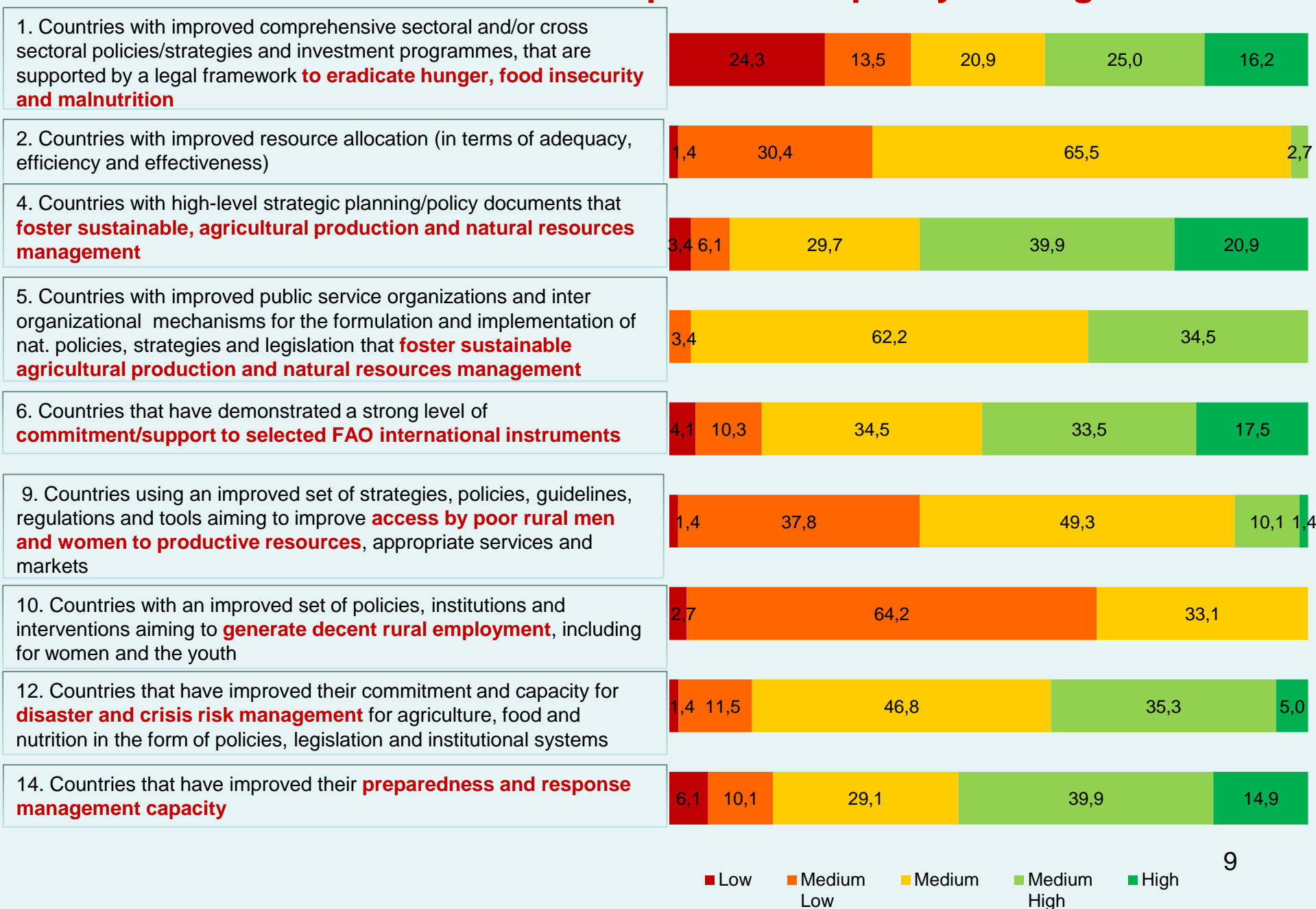
**Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition**

# The baseline results - Overview

- Number of countries with good capacities specifically for **policy design**:
  - 61% for fostering sustainable agriculture (more traditional sector)
  - 41% for food security and nutrition
  - 40% for disaster and crisis risk management
- Urgent need to improve countries capacities in policies for social protection and decent employment
- Need to invest in strengthening capacities at country level to use information systems and data for EBPM

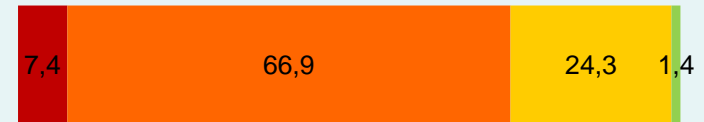


# The baseline results – countries capacities for policy making



# The baseline results – country capacities for use of data

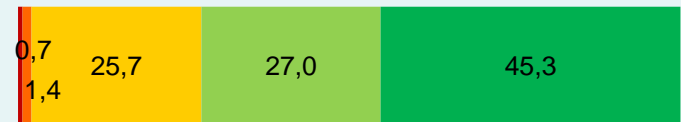
3. Countries with improved evidence and high quality analytical products generated through functional information systems in support of **food security and nutrition** policy and programming processes



7. Countries with improved response rates and/or quality of contributions to the global collection of data **on agriculture and natural resources**, during the reporting period



8. Countries that use statistics moderately or extensively in policymaking processes pertaining **to agriculture and natural resources management** since the last reporting period, according to expert opinion.



11. Countries with improved **social protection systems** that link social protection with rural poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, and sustainable management of natural resources (capacity to analyze)



13. Countries that have improved their capacity to deliver regular information **and trigger timely actions against potential, known and emerging threats to agriculture, food and nutrition**

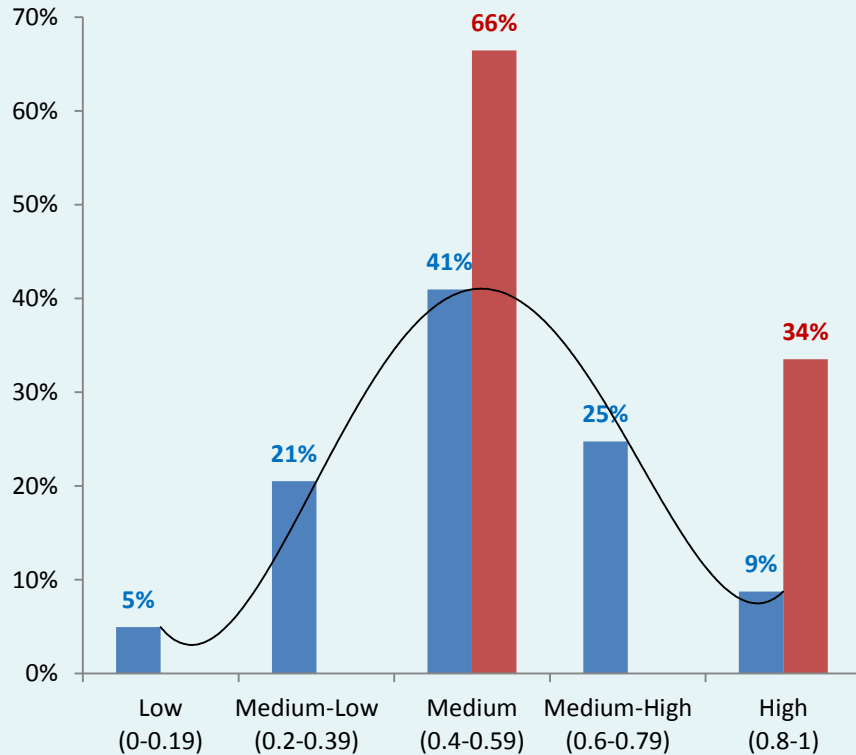


15. Number of countries that have improved their capacity to **apply prevention and impact mitigation measures that reduce risks for agriculture, food and nutrition**



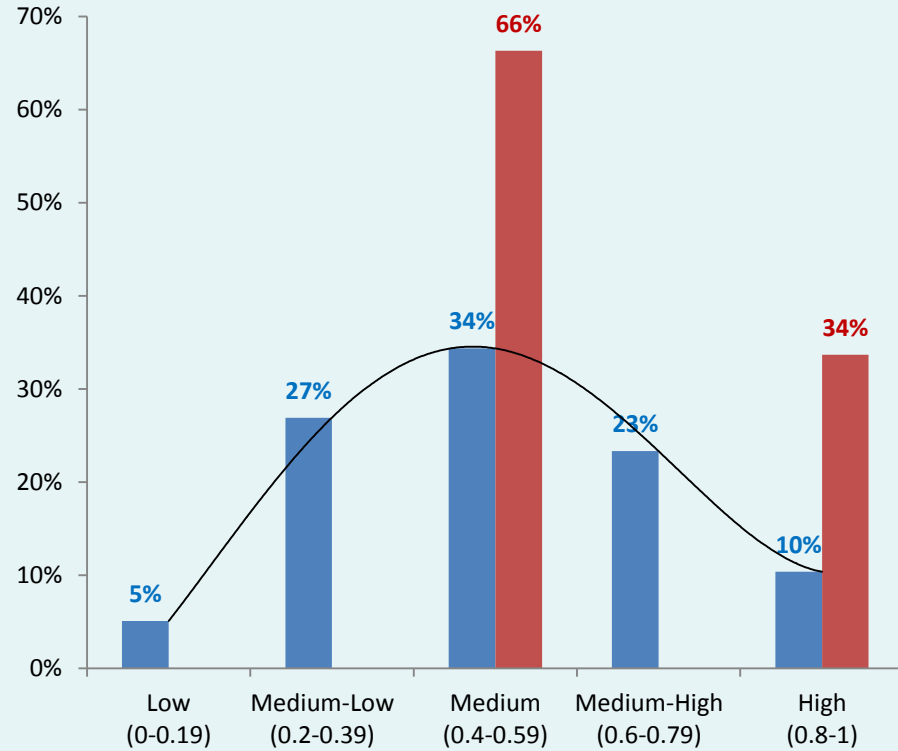
# The overall baseline results

## Policy



- Overall distribution of countries by level of capacities for relevant policies / programmes
- Cumulative percentage of countries in the low, medium-low and medium class; and in the medium-high and high class

## Systems and data use



- Overall distribution of countries by level of capacities to use information for decision making
- Cumulative percentage of countries in the low, medium-low and medium class; and in the medium-high and high class

# Opportunities and challenges

- Comprehensive view of countries capacities for EBPM as basis for targeted action and support
- Better structured and harmonized indicators across FAO areas of mandate;
- Expertise for desk review of policy/programme documents
- Availability of secondary data and frequency;
- Identification of and turn-over of respondents at country level.



The new FAO monitoring approach was developed by a team co-led by Minà Dowlatchahi and Pietro Gennari, FAO Chief Statistician, with the important contribution of José Valls Bedeau, Claudia de Vitiis and Valentina Gualtieri. What was presented is the result of a three years on-going project.

*Thank you*

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