Food Security in the context of global coffee supply chains

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FAO HUNGER MAP
Prevalence of Undernourishment 2019-2021
SDG Indicator 2.1.1

Up to 828 million people are going hungry worldwide
What is hunger?

• **Acute hunger** (famine) designates undernourishment over a definable period. It is the most extreme form of hunger and arises frequently in connection with crises like droughts due wars and disasters.

• **Chronic hunger** designates a state of long-term undernourishment. The body absorbs less food than it needs. Although the media mostly report on acute hunger crises, globally, chronic hunger is by far the most widespread. It usually arises in connection with poverty. Chronically hungry people do not have sufficient money for healthy nutrition, clean water or health care.

• **Hidden hunger** is a form of chronic hunger. Due to an unbalanced diet, important nutrients are lacking. At first glance, the consequences are not necessarily very visible, but over the long-term these nutrient deficiencies lead to serious diseases. In particular, children are unable to develop correctly, neither mentally nor physically.

Source: https://www.welthungerhilfe.org/hunger
The Coffee Belt – Main Coffee Exporting Countries

Map 1: Main Coffee Exporting Countries

- Africa: Ethiopia, Uganda, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Tanzania, Cameroon, Burundi, Congo, Dem Rep., Guinea, Madagascar, Sierra Leone
- Caribbean: Dominican Republic, Cuba, Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago
- Central America: Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama
- South America: Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana

Food Security Trends in the most common coffee producing countries

Colombia

Indonesia

Ethiopia

Food Security

Population

People with insufficient food consumption

Population

HungerMap LIVE (wfp.org)
What is Food Security?

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. (FAO, 2004).

The Four Pillars of Food Security

**Availability**
There is a reliable and consistent source of quality food.

**Access**
People have sufficient resources to produce and/or purchase food.

**Stability**
People's ability to access and utilize food that remains stable and sustained over time.

**Utilization**
Knowledge and basic sanitary conditions to choose, prepare and distribute food.
Why do Coffer Farmers go hungry?

• Most of the producers are smallholders /smallholder cooperatives
  • major cash income from coffee
• Harvest Season from Oktober – March
  • across Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Mexico, 67% experienced between three and eight thin months of extreme food scarcity each year (CIAT)
• Risk of yield loss due to climatic changes
• Rising Food Prices in the last years due to major shocks on supply chains (Covid 19/Russian War)
• volatile prices for green coffee
As long as there is hunger in agri-value chains...

... the right to a life in dignity is not fulfilled.

... families rely on their children for income generation.

... there will be ecological damage and deforestation.

... farmers cannot invest in sustainability and technology.

... supply is at risk due to
  • lower resilience and flexibility.
  • farm closure.
  • trade bans.
  • violent conflicts.

... we will not meet the SDGs and Paris Agreement.

... we do not make full use of the human capital hindering economic growth.

... development and humanitarian aid is necessary.
The Food Security Standard (FSS)

- A product of Welthungerhilfe e.V. and Meo Carbon Solutions GmbH to realize the right to food in global agri-value chains.
- Designed as Add-On for existing sustainability certification or as stand-alone customizable FOSSEM (Food Security Sensitive Management) solution

**FSS →** The Right to adequate Food is respected by producers of agricultural commodities within their field of responsibility

- Farmers and workers are food secure
- Food security in area of influence does not deteriorate.

**FOSSEM →** Continuous improvement to Human Rights & food security efforts
### THE FIVE PILLARS AND 17 PRINCIPLES OF THE FSS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STABILITY</th>
<th>ACCESS</th>
<th>AVAILABILITY</th>
<th>UTILIZATION</th>
<th>CROSS CUTTING ELEMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Respect national food security and development strategies</td>
<td>5. Safeguard long-term farm profitability and fair business conduct</td>
<td>10. Respect water rights and ensure that water quality and availability are maintained or improved</td>
<td>13. Guarantee good nutrition</td>
<td>15. Respect women's rights and ensure gender equity</td>
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<td>7. Provide training and capacity building</td>
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<td>17. Assess and monitor local food security</td>
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<td>8. Offer social safety nets</td>
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### UN GUIDELINES ON THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD

FSS is Rooted in the Right to Food...
FOOD SECURITY STANDARD

Shared Responsibility for Food Security

**Government**
Institutional and legal framework for food security

**Food and Nutrition Security**

**Individuals**
Own food consumption/nutrition

**Private Sector**
Means for food security staff and communities in the area of influence

FSS focusses on factors influenced by private sector at local level

FOOD SECURITY STANDARD 11
FSS Toolbox

National Food Security Assessment (NaFSA-Tool)

→ Abstract risk assessment

Identifies potential human rights risks by country, with a special focus on the right to food through publicly available data

Quick Assessment Tool (FSS-QAT)

→ Concrete risk assessment & monitoring

Provides a structured interview questionnaire for smallholder farmers, workers and stakeholders

FSS Audit Procedure Tool – Audit Checklists

→ Complete HR risk assessment at production level

Offers a complete audit checklist—including criteria, indicators and guidance for verification

EXCERPT
1. Integrate the right to food into corporate policies & procedures
   - Establish internal management structure

2. Abstract risk analysis on national level -> NaFSA
   - Concrete food security risk analysis on the ground -> QAT
   - Full assessment -> Checklist

3. Respond to identified risks with FOSSEM or FSS
   - Develop action plan
   - Follow participatory rights-based FSS-approach

4. Monitor food security situation -> QAT
   - On-site verification and annual progress reports
   - Complaints mechanism, Evidence on FSS measures

5. Substantiated reporting on Human Right to Food
   - Annual assessment / audit reports
   - FOSSEM statement / FSS certificate

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CORPORATE HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN RIGHTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

TRANSPARENT REPORTING

IDENTIFYING RISKS

PERFORMANCE & MONITORING

PREVENTING & MITIGATING

DUE DILIGENCE
Benefits implementing the FSS into sustainability management practices

- Implementers can break down farmer’s right to food into different actionable indicators
- Make risks visible to tackle them (FSS risk assessment)
- Enables companies to identify gaps towards food security and develop a reasonable work plan to close gaps
- Develop preventive and mitigative measures depending on the identified problem (utilization of food, access to water...)
- Can be used for sustainability reporting (SDG´s/GRI etc.)
- Food security is the basis that Local development can be promoted
The FSS in the 4C Framework

Full integration of the FSS Criteria in 4C checklist

Full integration of the FSS procedures and tools in 4C Audit procedures

- To be checked during the same audit
The Food Security Standard …

FSS Benefits

- **Food Security**
  - Farmers, workers and local communities are food secure.

- **Human right**
  - Producer of agricultural goods comply with the human right to food.

- **Due diligence**
  - Retailer demonstrate due diligence in food security.

- **Sustainability**
  - Consumers can opt for products that are also sustainable regarding food security.

- **FSS Benefits**

  - is an Add-On Standard and designed to be integrated in any existing sustainability standard in the agricultural sector.
  - is applicable to all agricultural products, farm sizes and business types.
  - useful toolbox for risk analysis, risk assessment and management guidance, monitoring.
  - addresses Human Rights holistically in line with German Supply Chain Act & UNGP.
  - offers a stand-alone customizable solution (FOSSEM).
Let’s go for it!

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