

Glossary



Community: A group of individuals and households staying in one locality, sharing resources and services interact with each other and specific relationships or form social networks.

Capacity building: Capacity building makes use of a range of interventions that build and strengthen the skills and commitment of people. The underlying approach is to empower people and enable them to improve their own household resources and community structures. The overall aim of capacity building initiatives is to create sustainable food security in households and communities.

Environments:

- **Natural environment:** The natural environment provides our natural resources such as soil, water, air and biodiversity, which include wild plants and animals.
- **Socio-cultural environment:** The socio-cultural environment is made up of ourselves, our children and families, our communities, our society, our cultural heritage, the economy and political structures, leaders and decision makers.

Food availability: In a country, region or local area means that food is physically present because it has been grown, manufactured, imported and/or transported there.

Food access: The way different people can obtain the available food through a combination of home production, supplies, purchases, barter, gifts, borrowing, food parcels or grants

Food insecurity:

- **Chronic food insecurity** is long-term or persistent. Occurs when people are unable to meet their minimum food requirements over a sustained period of time. Is often the result of extended periods of poverty, lack of assets and inadequate access to productive or financial resources.
- **Transitory food insecurity** is short-term and temporary. Refers to a sudden drop in the ability to produce or access enough food to maintain a good nutritional status. Is primarily caused by short-term shocks and fluctuations in food availability and food access, including year-to-year variations in domestic food production, food prices and community incomes

Food security: Exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

Food stability: The stability dimension of food security highlights the importance of having to reduce the risk of any adverse effects on the three other dimensions, namely food availability, access to food and food utilisation.



Food security status: The degree of food security or the food security situation in a specific household. It refers to how much food is available, to what extent the household has access to food, how they are utilising the food they have and how stable the food supply is.

Food utilization: The way people use the food and is dependent on the quality of the food, its preparation and storage methods, the nutritional knowledge of the households, as well as the health practices applied

Globalisation: Globalisation is a complex process of spreading businesses and markets throughout the world. This links markets across countries and makes countries interdependent.

Households: A household for the purpose of information-gathering, is seen as the groups of people living together under one roof. They can be related or unrelated but together they contribute to the household finances, share the household chores and usually use the same basket of resources and sit round the same hearth.

Levels:

- **Micro level:** The level on which the household functions.
- **Meso level:** The level on which the community functions.
- **Exo level:** The level on which institutions and the stakeholders involved, function.
- **Macro level:** The national and international levels with their specific political and ideological structures.

Livelihood security: Making a living, which implies a combination of activities

Nutritional security: Includes three aspects of the household namely, the daily food intake, the care practices, the clean water and household environment

Nutritional status: The present nutritional status of household members, that is, *at this point in time*.

Policy: Is a broad framework of ideas and values within which decisions are taken and action or inaction, is pursued by governments in relation to some issue or problem.

Public Policy: A public policy is a broad framework of ideas and values within which decisions are taken and action or inaction is pursued by governments in relation to some issue or problem.

Right to food: The right to food in the South African Constitution is based on the Declaration on the Right to Food by the United Nations. This international undertaking demands that governments be accountable, in the governance to people, to the rights of the people.

Shocks: Sudden events that impact on livelihood security

Stakeholders: People who are interested in or affected by,, an issue and who want to be involved in looking for solutions.



Stresses: Long-term trends, that impact negatively on livelihoods.

Sustainable food system: A way of producing and distributing food that protects the environment and ensures that our land, air and water will be able to continue producing food in the future.

Vulnerability: Defencelessness, insecurity and exposure to risk, shock and stress and difficulty in coping with them. Vulnerability has two sides: An external side of risks, shocks and stress to which an individual or household is subjected to and an internal side which is defencelessness, meaning a lack of means to cope with damaging loss.





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