

## HEA TOOLKIT ANNEX 7.3: RAPID ASSESSMENTS

### Checklist of issues to be considered during review of secondary data

- What were different people doing for a living before the disaster?
- What were the main ways that people got food and income before the disaster?
- How did those differ between geographical areas (livelihood zones)?
- How did those differ between richer and poorer people (wealth groups)?
- What was the relative importance of each of those activities (i.e. their contribution to total food access and to total food income)?
- Were all groups getting enough food of the right quality to be well nourished?
- Were all groups earning enough income by non-harmful ways to afford their basic needs (including food, education, healthcare, soap and other household items, clothing and productive inputs such as seeds and tools)?
- (The latter two questions will indicate whether there were chronic problems or not; these may be exacerbated by a disaster, or may be unaffected; but the appropriate response is influenced by whether the problem is chronic or acute)
- What is the normal seasonal pattern of activities, and where in the seasonal calendar are we now?

### Suggested sources of secondary data

- National level assessments by Government Ministries/ agencies, VACs, WFP, FAO, World Bank, UNDP
- Existing Household Economy Assessments
- Food security or livelihoods assessments by agencies using a livelihoods approach, e.g. FEWS-NET, Oxfam, ACF or CARE.
- Malnutrition data can often be found from: Demographic & Health Surveys (DHS); Ministry of Health; Unicef
- Telephone or face-to-face Interviews/ discussions with experienced government and international agency staff

### Checklist of issues to be considered when examining the effects of the hazard/shock

- How has the shock affected the ability of the household to engage in each activity?
- Have there been any deaths or injuries to those who did the activity?
- Is the household pre-occupied with other priorities such that they cannot work? (E.g. reconstructing shelters, attending funerals, caring for sick or injured or bereaved relatives, dealing with own trauma)
- Have any key productive assets been lost or damaged? (Note that this could include physical assets such as tools, and natural assets such as land.)
- Has there been any loss of stocks or saving? (E.g. food stocks being destroyed; stocks of inputs being lost (e.g. a carpenter's wood, or a shopkeeper's stock of goods); cash savings being lost; bank savings being inaccessible...)
- If livelihoods depend on selling a good or a service, has the market for the good or service been physically affected? (E.g. physical destruction of shops or market places; roads to markets being damaged and impassable;

- Has the market for the good or service been economically affected?
- Has the market for the good or service been affected in any other way? (E.g. insecurity preventing access to markets; psychological or health concerns.) Has the policy environment changed in a way that might affect livelihoods? (e.g. bans of movements of food or livestock; restrictions on where people can live)

*Additional Issues in Conflict Situations*

- Does the conflict put any population group at particularly risk of food insecurity (e.g. on the grounds of nationality, ethnicity, religion, wealth, etc.)?
- How might economic relationships between groups be affected by conflict?
- Is the conflict intentionally targeting particular livelihood strategies?
- Are any groups likely to profit from the conflict?
- Would any of our intended interventions exacerbate tensions or put any group at risk of violence?