

FAFS Celebrating AUB'S 150th Anniversary



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL
AND FOOD SCIENCES
FACULTY OF FIRSTS



TOGETHER TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Livelihoods and Food Security in Post-Conflict Situations: Lessons Learned From Grassroots Action

Rami Zurayk

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
American University of Beirut

Food Security Post-conflict: A Foundation for Peace and Sustainable Development

Rebuilding Health Post-Conflict: A Dialogue for the Future

December 8, 2016

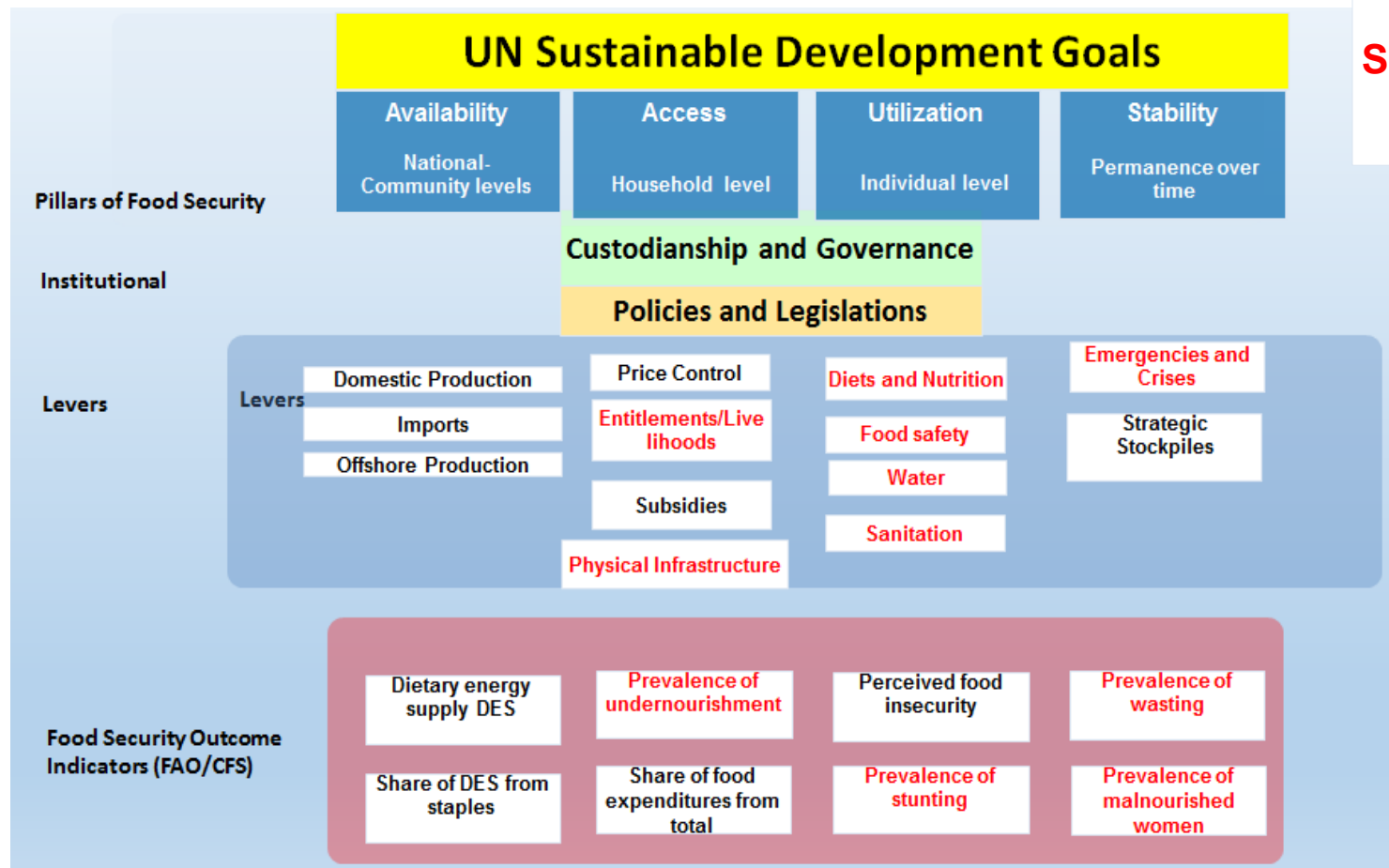
Conflicts, Food Security and Nutrition

- 1.5 billion people face cycles of violence and instability.
- Conflicts cause limited access to resources such as safe water and food
- Changes in: daily work, care practices, consumption of safe dietary intake.
- Disruption of markets, assets and incomes.
- Poor access to infrastructure.

Food Security:Nutrition:Health

- Food Security and Health are inextricably linked.
- Nutrition, a key determinant of health is the main outcome of food security.
- Food security and health share a number of other determinants, not least access to clean water and sanitation (see next slide).

Food Security Framework



**Red:
Shared with
Health**

Challenges for rebuilding food and nutrition security and health in post-conflict setting: learning from experience

- Select two cases 25 years and 4,000km apart
- Sahrawi refugee camps: desert gardens for enhanced nutrition
- South Lebanon 2006 livelihoods recovery program

Sahrawi refugee camps: desert gardens for enhanced nutrition

- Sahrawi refugee camps, Tindouf, Algeria 1991: 5 large wilayas housing 100,000 people. Camps are run by refugees. Rely on international aid and food relief. Very few fresh products. Building up malnutrition.
- Pillars addressed: Av, Ac, Ut, St
- Levers: Domestic production, **Entitlements/Livelihoods, Physical Infrastructure, Diets and Nutrition, Emergencies and Crises**
- Challenges: Production challenges: water, salinity, seeds





FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL
AND FOOD SCIENCES
FACULTY OF FIRSTS

South Lebanon 2006 livelihoods recovery



Why Livelihood?

- Multidimensional component of the availability and access dimensions of FSN.
- Enhancing them results in improving FSN.
- Raised funds and partnered with donor agencies (HBF, SEAL)
- Worked principally with rural women.
- Reconversion and adaptation of existing strategies
- Program operational 2006-2009, served hundreds of rural households.

Pillars addressed: Ac, Ut
Levers:
Entitlements/Livelihoods,
Water,
Diets and Nutrition



“The July War”

One million displaced
30,000 homes destroyed
One million cluster bombs

AUB Livelihoods Recovery Program



Issues Encountered

- Nutrition often not seen as a priority, eating enough calories is seen as the main issue.
- Statistics especially linking health and FNS are not readily collected.
- Capacity building of teams lacking
- Political contexts.
- Physical danger.
- Agenda “swallowed” by large donors.
- Health-livelihood-food security nexus not specifically addressed.

Lessons Learned: Impacting food security, nutrition and health in post-conflict

- To rebuild FNS and Health: Strengthen the pillars through specific programs
- Sustainable livelihoods are crucial to ensuring health and nutritional welfare. It is imperative maintain the integrity of the households and to make them economically and socially viable in order to protect, promote and restore nutrition and health.
- Food relief should not be considered in isolation, it should be complemented with livelihood support and nutrition-enhancing dimensions.

Lessons Learned: Impacting food security, nutrition and health in post-conflict

- In post-conflict situations, emphasis should be given to women's involvement in the rehabilitation of livelihoods and in food production to improve household food security.
- Civil society organizations have the ability to respond swiftly. But they need support and endorsement for compliance and credibility. And they need to be supported by professionals acting as volunteers such as AUB experts. They are the best bet for building a quick response system and enhancing resilience in conflicts and crises.

THANK YOU