



WBG SCORECARD FY24-FY30 METHODOLOGY NOTE

WBG Client Context & Vision Indicators

The purpose of this note is to ensure the rigor, transparency, and reproducibility of the WBG client context and vision indicators included in the new WBG Scorecard FY24-FY30, as well as their alignment with the WBG’s vision. Technical teams were asked to provide a sufficiently detailed methodology so that anyone who reads this note can understand its rationale, theory of change, data sources, and method of calculation.

Definitions included in this template are aligned to the WBG Scorecard paper endorsed by the Board on Dec 19th, 2023. The methods notes are living documents and will be subject to updating and revision pending operational inputs and implementation lessons over time.

OVERVIEW	
INDICATOR NAME	Percentage of people facing food and nutrition insecurity (globally)
SUB-INDICATORS	N/A
VISION / CLIENT CONTEXT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vision indicator <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client context indicator
OUTCOME AREA	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Protection for the Poorest <input type="checkbox"/> Healthier Lives <input type="checkbox"/> Green and blue planet and resilient populations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable food systems <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for all <input type="checkbox"/> Digital services <input type="checkbox"/> More and Better Jobs </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> No Learning Poverty <input type="checkbox"/> Effective Macroeconomics and Fiscal Management <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive and equitable water and sanitation services <input type="checkbox"/> Connected Communities <input type="checkbox"/> Digital connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Gender equality and youth inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Better Lives for People in Fragility, Conflict, and Violence <input type="checkbox"/> More private investments </div> </div>
SDG ALIGNMENT	<p>See https://sdgs.un.org/ for further details on SDGs:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Poverty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Zero Hunger <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Good Health and Well-being <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Quality Education <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Gender Equality <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Clean Water and Sanitation <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Affordable and Clean Energy <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Industry Innovation and Infrastructure </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Reduced Inequalities <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Responsible Consumption and Production <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Climate Action <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Life Below Water <input type="checkbox"/> 15. Life on Land <input type="checkbox"/> 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Partnerships for the Goals </div> </div> <p>List of specific UN targets (if applicable):</p>
UNIT OF MEASURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Number of people <input type="checkbox"/> Number of countries <input type="checkbox"/> USD <input type="checkbox"/> GW <input type="checkbox"/> Hectares <input type="checkbox"/> tCO2eq/year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Percentage of population
LEGACY INDICATOR NAME	<input type="checkbox"/> WB Old Scorecard indicator <input type="checkbox"/> WBG Old Scorecard indicator <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
RATIONALE	
DEFINITION	<p>The share of people worldwide who live in moderately or severely food insecure households with at least one adult exposed to low-quality diets or forced to reduce the quantity of normal consumption during a year due to a lack of money or other resources. People experiencing moderate food insecurity have reduced the quality and/or quantity of their food and are uncertain about their ability to obtain food due to lack of money or other resources. People experiencing severe</p>

food insecurity have run out of food and, at the most extreme, have gone days without eating. Food insecurity is measured using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), developed by FAO.

DEVELOPMENT RELEVANCE

Food insecurity is a relevant indicator to the WBG's new vision to create a world free of poverty on a livable planet because it is closely associated with poverty. Climate change has negative impacts on food production and can thus harm food security. More broadly, a livable planet needs to provide people with life essentials, including food and water.

Food insecurity at moderate levels of severity is typically associated with the inability to regularly eat healthy, balanced diets. As such, high prevalence of food insecurity at moderate levels can be considered a predictor of various forms of diet-related health conditions in the population, associated with micronutrient deficiency and unbalanced diets. Severe levels of food insecurity, on the other hand, imply a high probability of reduced food intake and therefore can lead to more severe forms of undernutrition, including hunger.

This indicator is almost identical to the official SDG indicator 2.1.2, "Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)". The only difference is that the WBG's scorecard tracks the absolute number of people, while the SDGs track the prevalence. SDG indicator 2.1.2 falls under the SDG Target 2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round. The custodian of this SDG indicator is the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which also reports the data. The data have been updated annually and reported to the UN SDG Global Database. Currently, data is available for the years 2015-2021 for most economies. Data are released each year alongside the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report, usually in mid-July.

LIMITATIONS

Data are not collected annually in every country. Missing years are filled in using interpolations and other techniques, which require additional assumptions. For many countries, the sample size in the underlying survey data is small, which leads to fairly large confidence intervals. Given this small survey data and the heterogeneity of the survey sources (including the increasing availability of national surveys), new data can lead to a notably large increase or decrease from one year to the next.

Several measures of acute and chronic food insecurity exist which capture different aspects of the problem. The FAO indicator is chosen for the time being since it is used in SDG monitoring and has broad country coverage. One issue is that including both moderate and severe food insecurity risks diverting attention from where the problem is most acute. Furthermore, the FAO indicator is a relatively new measure of food insecurity, and recent published work has highlighted the need to better understand what aspects of food insecurity it can capture, and how it will change over time. Analytical work is ongoing to understand better what the various measures of food insecurity are capturing, and how they can be used in conjunction to get a more complete understanding of the different aspects of food insecurity.

Food access is difficult to precisely measure since the minimum daily energy requirement is unobservable and since it is difficult to precisely estimate the calorie and nutritional content of food consumed in the reference period. Given this difficulty, for any food access indicator, including the FAO indicator, it has become best practice to measure each aspect of food access with more than a single indicator. Thus, any individual indicator would have difficulty in precisely identifying the population with poor food access.

Furthermore, the FAO indicator incorporates behaviors and experiences associated with many different dimensions of poor food access-- undernourishment (consuming too few calories), undernutrition (consuming insufficient micronutrients), and subjective experiences with food insecurity (e.g., worrying about food consumption, etc.). Because this information is combined into a single indicator, it is unclear which dimension(s) of poor food access are being experienced by individuals that are food insecure according to the measure, or whether populations identified as food secure

	according to the measure are suffering from poor access in a subset of the dimensions. There is also a growing literature illustrating that it is very difficult to precisely measure and interpret subjective experiences with food insecurity that the measure aims to capture, including the possibility that such experiences might not be related to actual food consumption or nutritional benchmarks.
DATA AND CALCULATION	
DATA SOURCE(S)	Data can be collected using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale survey module (FIES-SM) developed by FAO, or any other experience-based food security scale questionnaire. Since 2014, the FIES-SM is applied to nationally representative samples collected through the Gallup World Poll. In most countries, samples include about 1,000 individuals (with larger samples in some countries such as China and India). Besides the GWP, FAO collects data through Geopoll and Kantar. National government survey data are becoming increasingly available and are used where possible. In 2022, such surveys were used for 60 countries, covering more than a quarter of the world population. Data are compiled and reported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Statistics Division, Food Security and Nutrition Statistics Team.
METHOD OF CALCULATION (CORE)	Data is not collected annually in every country. Missing years are filled in using interpolations and imputations. To reduce the impact of year-to-year sampling variability, country-level estimates are presented as three-year averages, computed as averages of all available years in the considered triennia. For example, data for 2015 is the average of 2014-2016 data. The assessment is conducted using data collected with the Food Insecurity Experience Scale or a compatible experience-based food security measurement questionnaire (such as the HFSSM). The probability of being food insecure is estimated using the one-parameter logistic Item Response Theory model (the Rasch model) and thresholds for classification are made comparable across countries by calibrating the metrics obtained in each country against the FIES global reference scale, maintained by FAO. The threshold to classify "moderate or severe" food insecurity corresponds to the severity associated with the item "having to eat less" on the global FIES scale. ¹
METHOD OF CALCULATION (DISAGGREGATION)	The estimates for the world, regions, and other country groupings (e.g., FCS, SIDS) are the sum of all available values across countries listed in the group. Data are also available disaggregated by sex.
VERSION	Version 1. Revised March 28, 2024

¹ For more details, please see https://www.fao.org/3/cc3017en/online/state-food-security-and-nutrition-2023/annexes1_b.html and <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>.