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| **Module No. THREE** | **Module Name: NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY** |
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| Deadline | 30.06.2019 |
| Program | Diploma in Food Security and Nutrition in Humanitarian Emergency |
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| Reg: | **AIPMS/241/003/2019** |

**Assignments 3**

1. Define the following terms:

(a) Policy

Policy is defined as a principle, rule, and guideline formulated or adopted by an organization to reach its long-term goals and typically published in a booklet or other form that is widely accessible.

(b) Food balance sheets

Food balance sheets provide essential information on a country's food system through three components:

* Domestic food supply of the food commodities in terms of production, imports, and stock changes.
* Domestic food utilization which includes feed, seed, processing, waste, export, and other uses.
* Per capita values for the supply of all food commodities (in kilograms per person per year) and the calories, protein, and fat content.

In summary, annual food balance sheets show the trends in the overall national food supply, disclose changes that may have taken place in the types of food consumed, and reveal the extent to which the food supply of the country is adequate in relation to nutritional requirements.2.

1. Discuss four limitations of food aid

The limitation of food aid is can be discussed as follows: -

Food aid from developed countries such as the US, China and South Korea increases the dependence of people from the recipient country on it. This makes local markets disrupted and make it harder for people to recover from the crisis.

Food aid systems also puts the interests of donor countries above the needs of the hungry people, the food aid produced in developed countries are also less expensive because famers who grow them receive subsidies, so they are able to produce it at a lower price. So, here again the local market is disrupted.

Food aid can also have a knock-on effect when only one food price falls, then people might only buy that product causing farmers from other industries to suffer.

Food aid also can sometimes arrive late, causing disruption to the next round of harvests, resulting in the slow recovering of local farmers. *(*[*Nethmi Sachithma*](https://www.quora.com/profile/Nethmi-Sachithma-2)*, Student at Macalester College)*

3. Use of genetically modified foods (GMOs) has been a controversial issue. Discuss the role of GMOs on food and nutrition security.

The following are some of the roles of GMOs on food and nutrition security as explained below;

Genetically Modified crops could contribute to food production increases and thus improve the availability of food at global and local levels.

It also noted Genetically Modified food (GMOs) crops could affect food safety and food quality directly or indirectly as many processes are involved in modification of the gene of that particular crop.

Genetically Modified food (GMOs) crops could influence the economic and social situation of farmers, thus improving or worsening their economic access to food.

In summary, GMO technologies could make food crops higher yielding and more robust to biotic and abiotic stresses. This could stabilize and increase food supplies, which is important against the background of increasing food demand, climate change, and land and water scarcity.

1. Discuss the common coping strategies adopted by household in your community when there is crop failure.

Definition of Concept Coping Strategy

Coping strategies is referred to as remedial actions undertaken by people whose survival and livelihood are compromised or threatened.

There are no standards for coping strategies, they vary depending on, and are influenced by socio-cultural factors

In my community, the coping strategies normally employed are as follows: -

When food become limited and families begin experiencing hunger, it always a routine that one can go and borrow grain from their immediate next of kin. If the hunger persists, one extends that to other community members who might help.

Community members could also have engaged in sale of small livestock animals particularly the male animals so to buy food stuff.

There is also a habit that due to good relationship with traders, some community members could access grain from the local traders through borrow. They could also borrow money to use for other needed food stuff.

To some extend households with enough or those with valuable domestic assets could engaged is sale of these category of items in order to cover for their food requirements

5. Explore the technological trends that can increase individuals’ vulnerability to food insecurity.

There are numerous causes of food insecurity that could be attributed to technological trends.

These includes: -

Population growth due improved medical facilities has resulted to human encroaching protected lands hence destabilizing the natural ecosystem leading to reduced water level and prolong lack or rein and drought.

Reduced and degraded environment due mining that has greatly impacted the production of some food crops as a result Climate shocks occurring in areas exposed to land degradation increase the number of livelihoods’ vulnerability to food insecurity.

Rising food prices due transportation, and high agricultural input costs due mechanization and use of fertilizers has deprived many of access to food and hence food insecurity.

Reference:

1. Coping with Natural Disasters, the role of local health personnel and the community, WHO/IFRC, 1989
2. Coping and Survival Mechanisms in the Context of Disaster Management, WHO/PTC, 1993
3. http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/fbs/en/
4. Nethmi Sachithma, Student at Macalester College 2017