

## Methodology for assessing food security and progress towards the international hunger targets

### Suite of food security indicators

Food security is a complex phenomenon, manifested in numerous physical conditions with multiple causes. *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2013* introduced a suite of food security indicators, which measures separately the four dimensions of food security to allow a more nuanced assessment of food insecurity.

Updated data for the suite of food security indicators can be viewed and downloaded from FAOSTAT (at <http://faostat3.fao.org/download/D/FS/E>) and the FAO website (at <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/ess-fadata/en/>).

FIGURE A2.1

#### Suite of food security indicators

FOOD SECURITY INDICATORS	DIMENSION
Average dietary energy supply adequacy Average value of food production	AVAILABILITY
Share of dietary energy supply derived from cereals, roots and tubers Average protein supply Average supply of protein of animal origin	
Percentage of paved roads over total roads Road density Rail lines density	
Gross domestic product (in purchasing power parity)	ACCESS
Domestic food price index	
Prevalence of undernourishment Share of food expenditure of the poor Depth of the food deficit Prevalence of food inadequacy	
Cereal import dependency ratio Percent of arable land equipped for irrigation Value of food imports over total merchandise exports	STABILITY
Political stability and absence of violence/terrorism Domestic food price volatility Per capita food production variability Per capita food supply variability	
Access to improved water sources Access to improved sanitation facilities	
Percentage of children under 5 years of age affected by wasting Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are stunted Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are underweight Percentage of adults who are underweight Prevalence of anaemia among pregnant women Prevalence of anaemia among children under 5 years of age Prevalence of vitamin A deficiency in the population Prevalence of iodine deficiency in the population	UTILIZATION

Source: FAO.