

How to calibrate protection vulnerability scoring?

Field experience stocktaking - UNHCR

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1 Introduction

Official UNHCR guidance on how to measure vulnerability are the following:

UNHCR measures indicators of refugee well-being including health and nutrition status, water and sanitation, shelter, socio-economic poverty and protection vulnerabilities to guide assistance and solution strategies. Analysis of individual protection vulnerabilities is guided by the Specific Needs approach, which guides case management. UNHCR Specific Needs codes are outlined in Annex 2. In addition UNHCR promotes the inclusion of refugees into National Poverty Assessments so as to be able to generate comparable data between refugees and host communities. Comparable socio-economic data is increasingly important to ascertain the level of assistance needed and to inform regional area-based development programs implemented by development and private sector partners together with National Governments as part of the Global Compact for Refugees – UNHCR/WFP Joint Guidance: Targeting of Assistance to Meet Basic Needs

This is complemented by the guidance below:

Vulnerability analysis framework: The framework defines which households are vulnerable among the entire refugee population. Various socio-economic or sector models can be applied as tools to prioritize who is eligible to receive assistance. An efficient tool for predicting the welfare of all refugee households is econometric welfare modelling. An example can be found in the Vulnerability Assessment Framework in Jordan

Targeting: defining eligibility: Anchored in a rights-based approach, the identification and selection of individuals or households for appropriate assistance are based on multi-sectoral analysis of protection risks, wealth and food insecurity, the vulnerability framework and the identified needs. Information from monitoring is analysed and can be used to update targeting eligibility criteria and make other adjustments. – Basic Needs Approach in the Refugee Response

WFP has quite detailed guidance around a Consolidated Approach for reporting indicators of food security, (CARI) which allow to define a composite indicator the “Food Security Index”

UNHCR Existing Guidance not provide details on how the calculation shall be made. This document build on generic guidance on composite indicator development from the EU-joint Research Center on Composite Indicator and aims at providing a cookbook approach for field practitioners. This document is build with a reproducible analysis approach, which implies for data expert on the field can simply adapt the scripts included in the documents to the context and data available in their own operations.

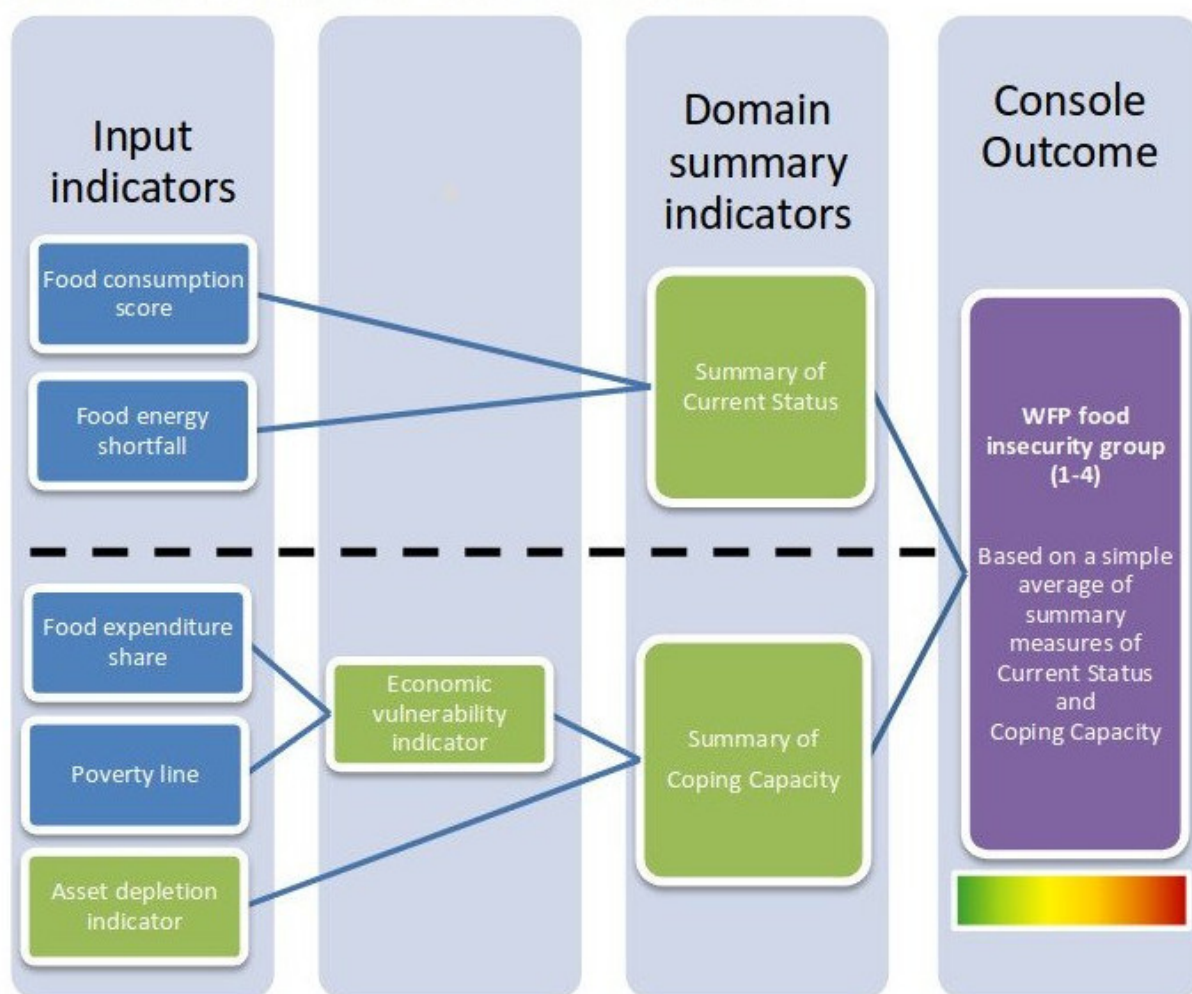


Figure 1: CARI Food Security Index theoretical model

2 Executive summary: what you need to know as a manager

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2.3 Be ready for auditing

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3.1 from the identification of vulnerables to the scoring of household vulnerability

3.2 Different models of vulnerability: food insecurity, poverty, protection

4 Potential approaches to calibrate scores

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4.2 Calibration using expert opinions

4.3 Calibration using statistically representative dataset

5 Risks when calibrating vulnerability scores

5.1 There's no magic formula

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6 Budget allocation

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8 Analytic Hierarchy Process

8.1

9 Vulnerability proxy Regression

9.1

10 Data Envelopement and Deprivation

10.1 What is deprivation analysis?

11 Robustness and Sensitivity analysis

11.1