

Question and Answer Session: on “Rigorous monitoring is necessary to guide food system transformation”

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Questions	Answers
<p>The country profile for Ethiopia?</p>	<p>The dashboard includes a number of country profiles, including Ethiopia's, but we are currently updating the profile. Furthermore, we're currently working on an Ethiopian dashboard, which will include a countdown of indicators for the following years. As a result, there is no longer an updated country profile for Ethiopia, but we have it now.</p>
<p>Are food system indicators country-specific? Or did they work at the global level?</p>	<p>All of our dashboard indicators, as well as those on the countdown, will be at the national level. Of course, there are advantages to being able to compare between countries, but there are frequent downsides as a result of differences in countries. Because we know that subnational food systems look very different, it's quite important to have a subnational dashboard that Ethiopia owns. Kathia Pedro said, a lot of work has been done in developing this subnational dashboard, which plans to be used in several countries in the coming year. Furthermore, we are currently developing subnational dashboards in six countries: three in Asia and three in Africa, namely Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Kenya, Mozambique, and Nigeria, according to Kathia. We have had a lot of conversations with Ethiopia and will continue to do so. But currently, we are seeking funding for that. Hopefully, we will be able to develop one dashboard for Ethiopia in the near future. We have a set of indicators available at the subnational level, which includes preventive level data and, in certain cases, city administrative level data.</p>
<p>Are there ways to engage human nutrition PhD students in the upcoming monitoring and evaluation of the Ethiopian food system?</p>	<p>Yes, absolutely. We collaborate closely with university academicians in four different regions in the country. We also aim to enlist the help of PhD students to provide data when monitoring and evaluating the Ethiopian food system is possible. This also links with the question of what universities and research institutes should be working on. In this regard, we will work closely with universities in this</p>

	area, and there is a lot of work to be done in terms of research, assessment, and eventually producing insightful learning and research outputs.
To develop a healthy eating index that would improve healthy diet quality, does this activity coordinate with the EFS work?	Yes, we're now attempting to standardize the indicators that we're looking at across a variety of indicator sets based on their relevance. In EFS, we're looking at a variety of diet quality indicators.
Do the indicators arranged at the national level also represent regions?	The aim is a click-through model, where you can see the aggregated data at the national level and how it should be broken down into regional levels.
Are there performance indicators for the EFS?	Yes, that is what we are doing at the moment. The list of indicators is not quite finalized but will probably be shared in a few months.
Is there a timeline for the M &E system to be finalized?	No, since we are reliant on resource mobilization at this point. We must go as far as we possibly can. We'll make sure to make an announcement as we continue to raise funds for the M&E system's development. In contrast, we will ensure that the measures are linked with international metrics as well as the Ethiopian Food and Nutrition Strategy, hence the answer will be yes. It should also be in line with the EFS program's planning.