

منظمة الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة



# Strengthening Food Control Systems in the NENA Region: Status and Opportunities

Dubai 2021 Food Safety Conference

*Saber Mansour and Cornelia Boesch*

*FAO Food Systems and Food Safety Division, Rome Italy*



# Our talk will emphasize the following

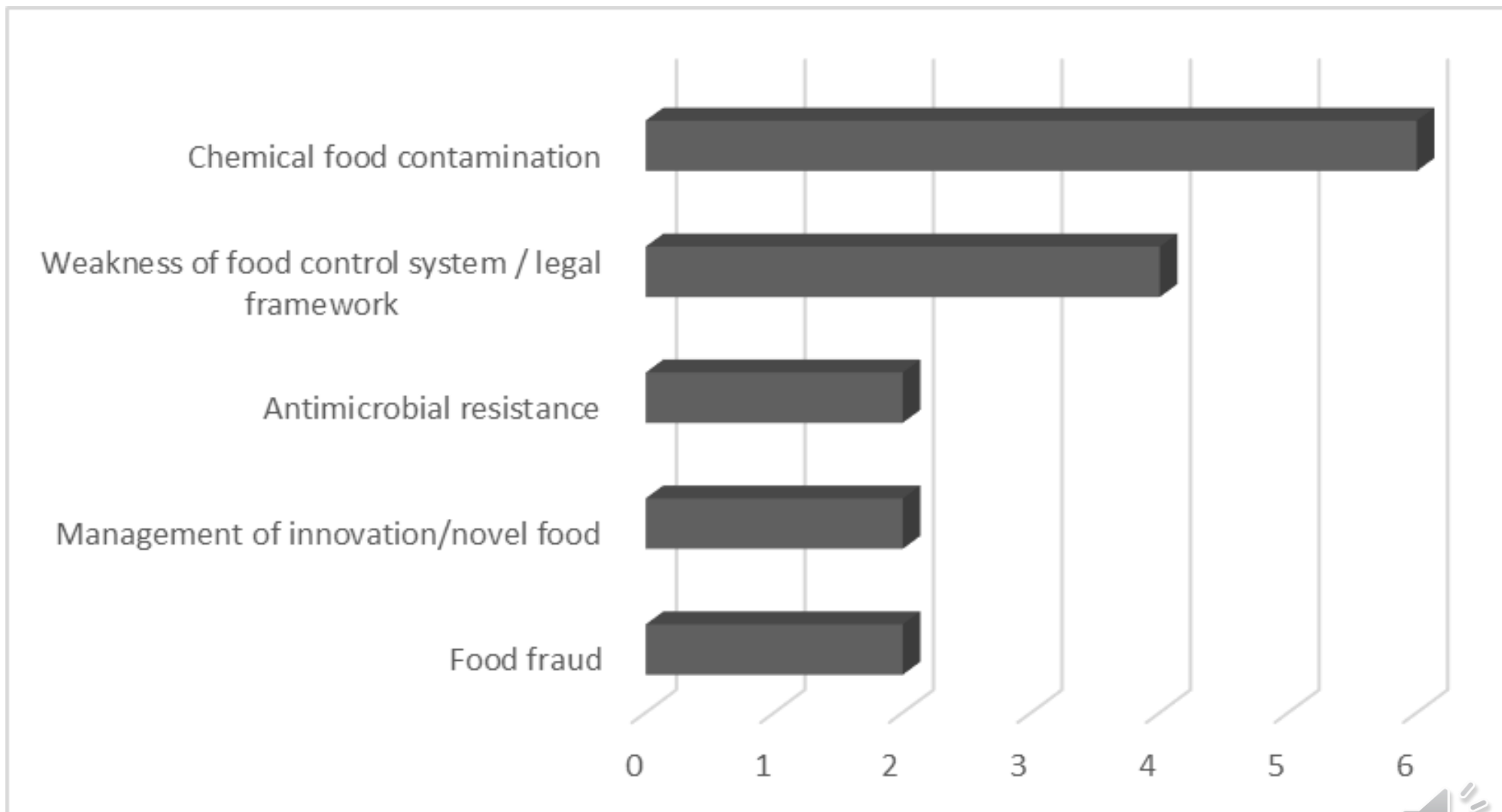
1. The Codex mechanism provides guidance and answers
2. FAO support for building food control mechanisms
3. The opportunity represented by the Codex Trust Fund
4. FAO's support to a regional trade facilitation programme



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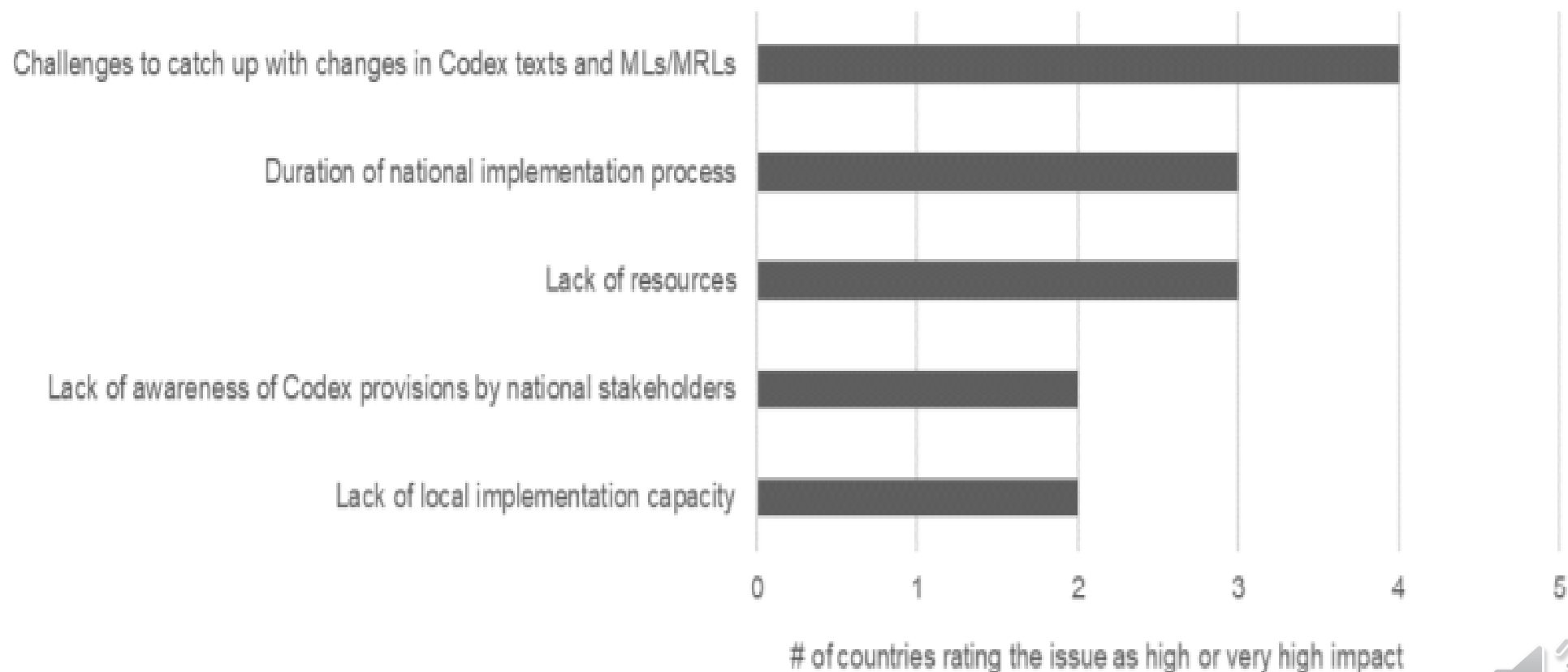
# Codex 2019 survey - Frequency of major emerging issues in Food Safety and Quality in NEA



# Codex 2019 survey – Use of Codex Standards in NEA

CX/NE 19/10/6

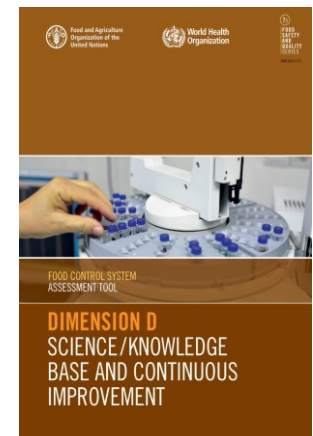
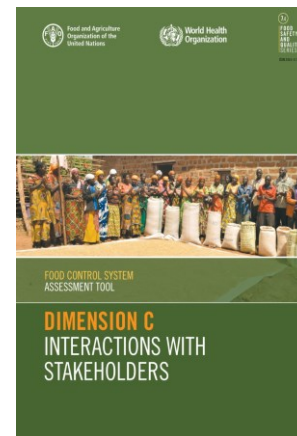
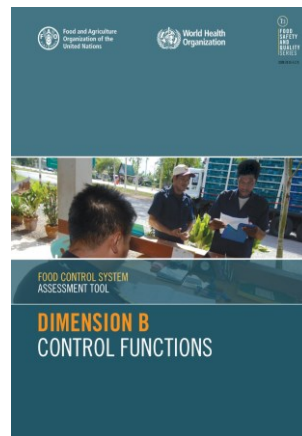
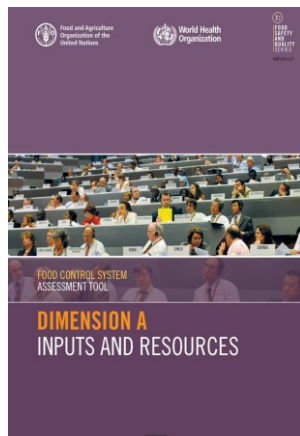
**Figure 1: Examples of difficulties with the use of Codex standards in the CCNE region**



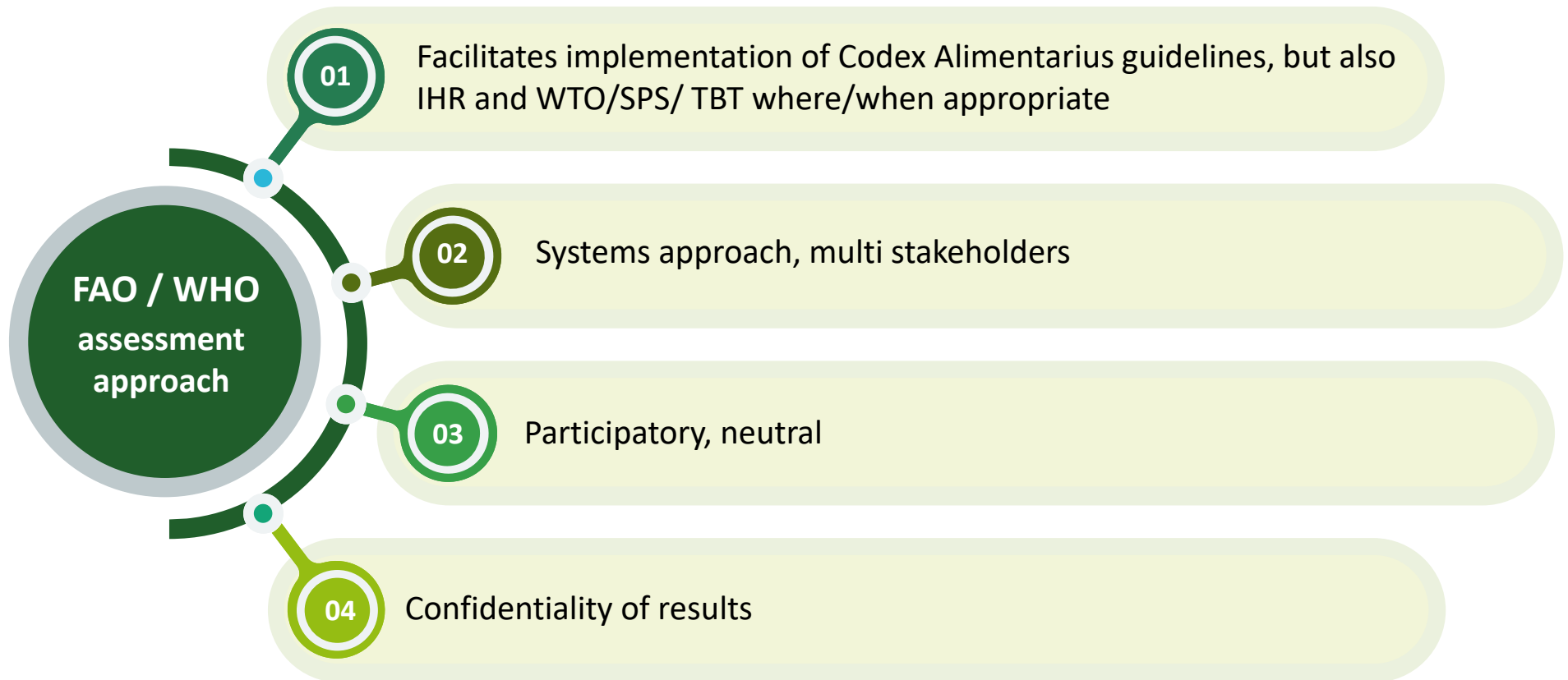
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# A new and comprehensive tool to evaluate the FOOD CONTROL SYSTEM of a country



# FAO - WHO new assessment approach proposed





# Different contexts for using the tool

## Facilitated Assessments

FAO and/or WHO  
primary piloting  
the assessments,



Sudan



Tunisia



Zambia



The Gambia



Indonesia



Malawi



Zimbabwe



Sierra Leone



Morocco



Abu Dhabi

## Self assessments

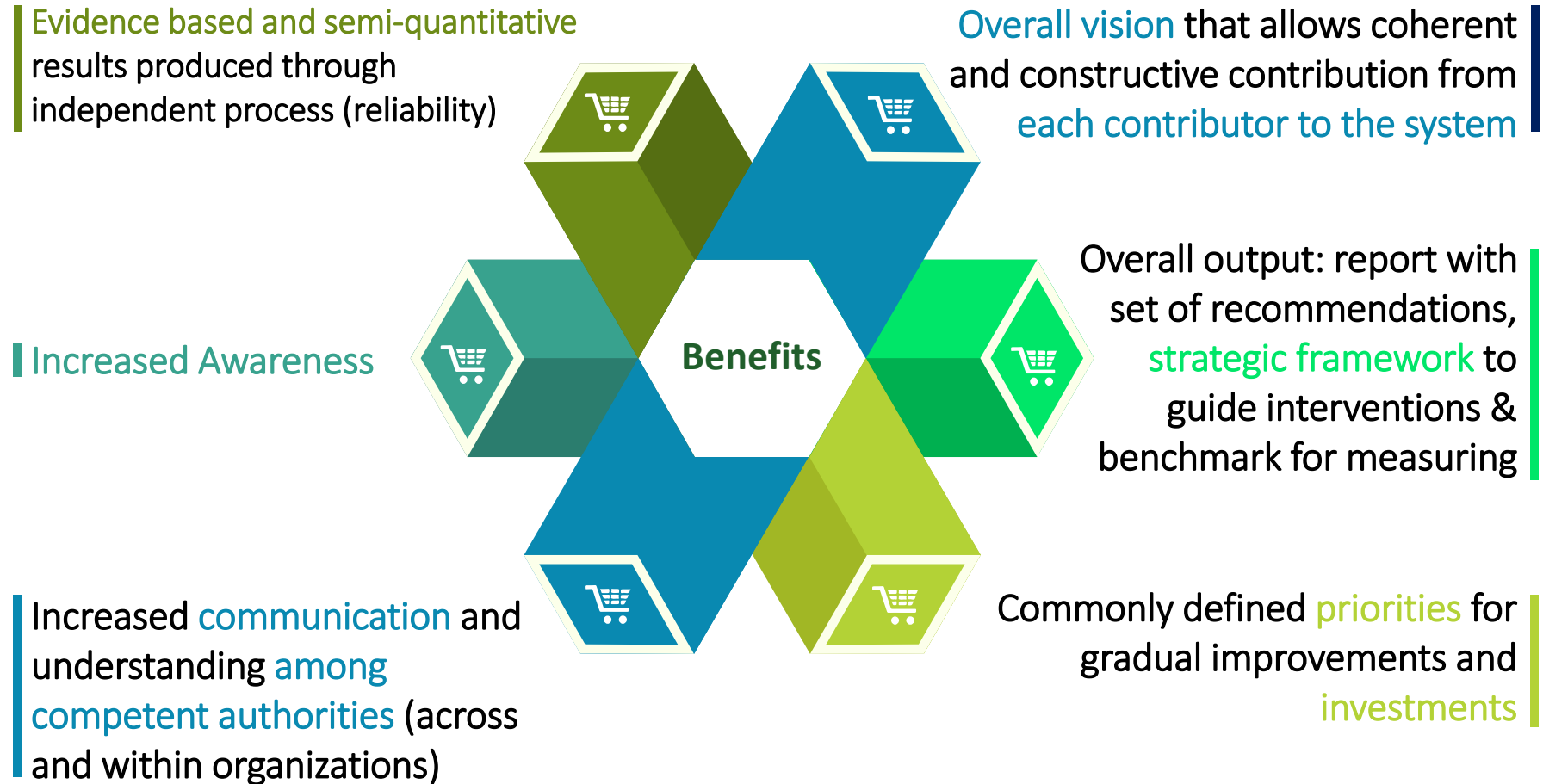


Iran

## Other parties



## Benefits of implementing the assessment **at a National level**



## Benefits of implementing the assessment **at a Regional level**

Helps **building a regional vision** and **mutual recognition** grounded in a **common understanding** of food control systems' design and operation

Reference to a **single**  
instrument  
(FAO/WHO tool for  
analyzing food control  
systems)



Anchored on **Codex**  
**principles** and  
internationally  
recognized good  
practices  
(harmonization)

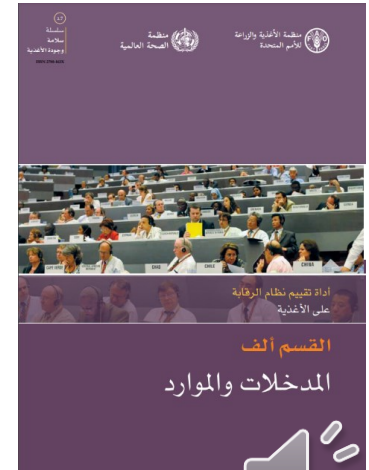
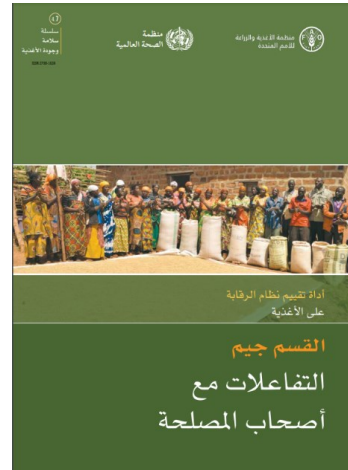
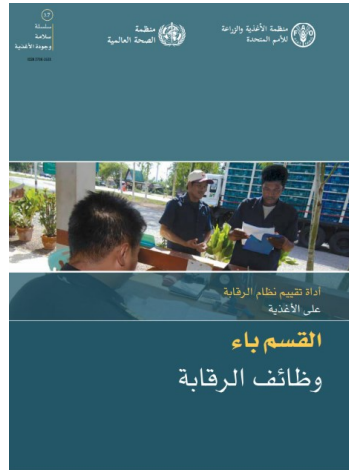


Facilitates **Codex**  
principles  
**implementation** in  
food control activities  
as translated into  
concrete actions



الجمهورية العربية السورية  
 وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي  
 الجمعية الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان

أداة تقييم نظام الرقابة  
 على الأندية  
 المقدمة  
 دليل المصطلحات



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# Eligibility for CTF support



- Countries with low & medium HDI, other low or middle-income SIDS and LLDCs with high HDI are eligible to apply for CTF support. Eligibility is updated annually (see CTF website).
- For CTF Round 6, a total of 54 countries are eligible for support, out of which there are **4 in CCNE**.

Eligible countries, by Codex region					
Africa (23)	Asia (5)	Europe (4)	Latin American & Caribbean (11)	Near East (4)	North America South-West Pacific (7)
<b>*Angola</b> , Botswana, Cameroon, <b>**Central African Republic</b> , <b>**Chad</b> , <b>*Comoros</b> , Congo, <b>**DR Congo</b> , <b>*Djibouti</b> , Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, <b>*Lesotho</b> , <b>*Mauritania</b> , Morocco, <b>**Mozambique</b> , Namibia, <b>**Niger</b> , <b>*Sao Tome and Principe</b> , <b>**Sierra Leone</b> , <b>**Somalia</b> , <b>**Togo</b> , <b>*Zambia</b> , Zimbabwe	<b>Afghanistan</b> , <b>*Bangladesh</b> , <b>+DPR Korea</b> , Mongolia, Pakistan,	Armenia, Moldova, <b>+Tajikistan</b> , Uzbekistan	Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, <b>**Haiti</b> , Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname	Iraq, <b>**Sudan</b> , <b>+Syrian Arab Rep.</b> , <b>**Yemen Rep.</b>	Cook Islands, Fiji, <b>*Kiribati</b> , Micronesia (FS of), Papua New Guinea, <b>*Solomon Islands</b> , <b>*Vanuatu</b>

\*LDCs & +LICs are indicated in **bold font**



# Activities supported by the Codex Trust Fund



## Focus is on capacity strengthening

For more details:

[https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/food-safety/codex-trust-fund/ctf-scope-of-activities.pdf?sfvrsn=9823fb7c\\_5](https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/food-safety/codex-trust-fund/ctf-scope-of-activities.pdf?sfvrsn=9823fb7c_5)

- Advocacy for policy/decision makers on role and value of Codex
- Training for staff working directly on Codex
- Building capacity on how to participate effectively in Codex work
- Codex “coaching”.
- Training on specific scientific/technical areas
- Training on priority Codex texts and guidance on how to harmonize and include these texts in national regulation/standards



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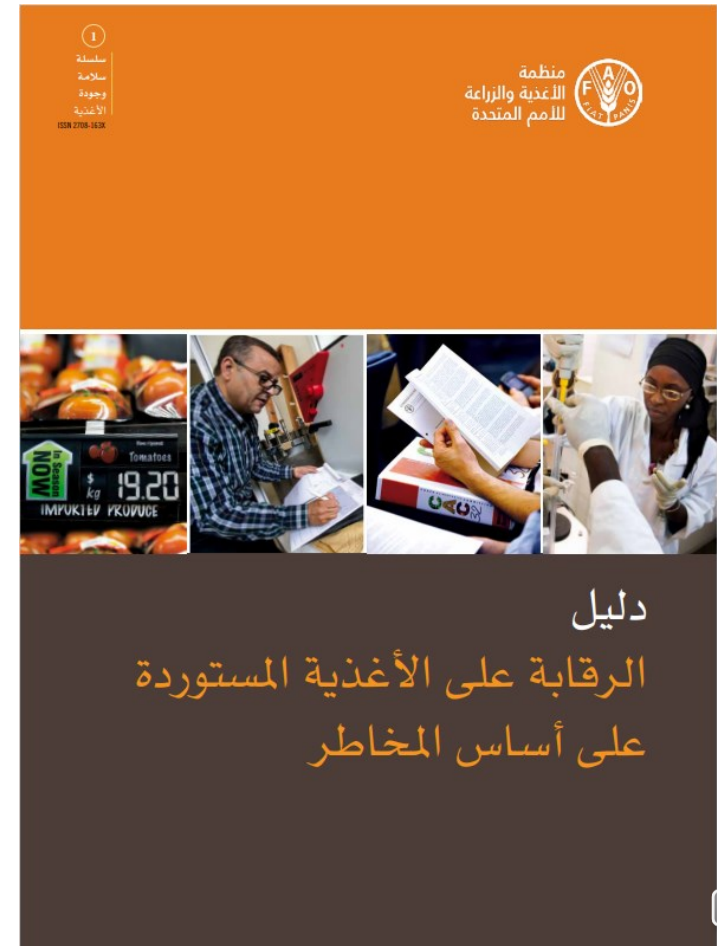






# FAO support to the COMESA Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP)

- Support of Egypt, Tunisia and Sudan
- Modernize their food import controls,
- Guided by the FAO Risk-Based Imported Food Control Manual (2016)

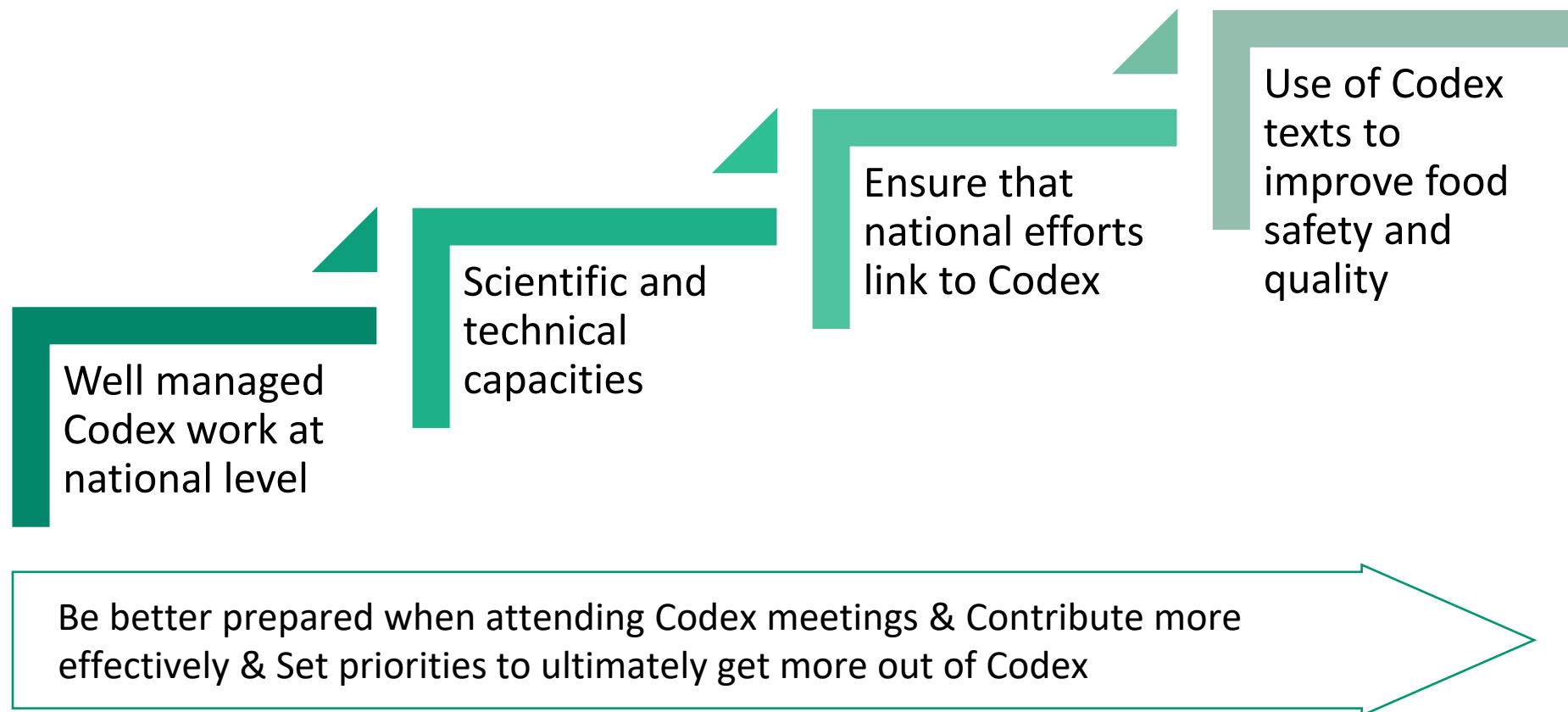


# Food import controls are being modernized

- Enhance the knowledge and application of principles and practices for risk-based imported food control,
- Generate understanding about
  - legal concepts and institutional arrangements
  - Function that underpin control programme
  - Basic instruments
  - The context
- Identify resource requirements
- Develop a strategic action plan



# Concluding message: Call to countries to benefit optimally from Codex mechanisms



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## Thank you

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