

SAFE



Arab Food Safety Initiative for Trade Facilitation

المبادرة العربية لسلامة الأغذية وتسهيل التجارة

Harmonization of Food Safety Standards to Enhance Regional Trade

Facts and Progress

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"Laying the foundation of a coordinated food safety system in the Arab region"

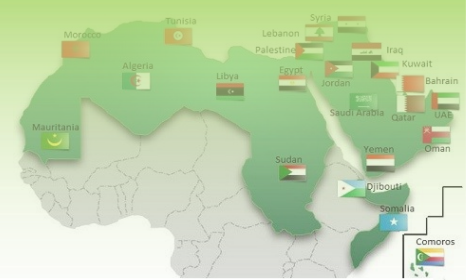
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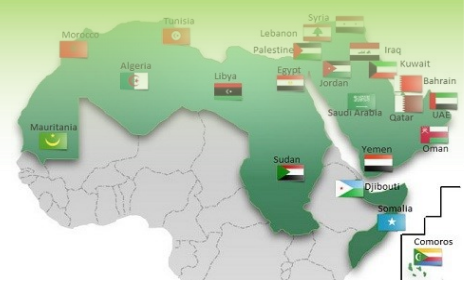
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SAFE at a Glance



Project Title	Enhance regional trade capacities in food through a harmonized regional conformity assessment and food safety systems	
Region	Arab Countries (18): GAFTA Agreement within the League of Arab States (LAS)	
Executing Agency	UNIDO	
Donor	Sida	
Counterparts	<u>Regional</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LAS - Arab Industrial Development & Mining Organization (AIDMO) - Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) 	<u>Countries</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National standards bodies - National food control authorities & relevant ministries - National institutions involved in food standards & food safety

Regional Collaboration



- Political Collaboration: LAS
- Institutional Collaboration: AIDMO - AOAD
- Technical Collaboration:
 - ❑ Union of Arab Chambers
 - ❑ Arab Federation of Industries
 - ❑ Arab Federation of Universities
 - ❑ Arab Beverage Organization



Development Goal



Objective

Support regional efforts, coordinated by LAS, AIDMO & AOAD, aiming at achieving regional integration, harmonization & effective coordination in food safety ensuring compliance with international trade rules & regulations (TBT/SPS)



Development Goal



Components

Institutional

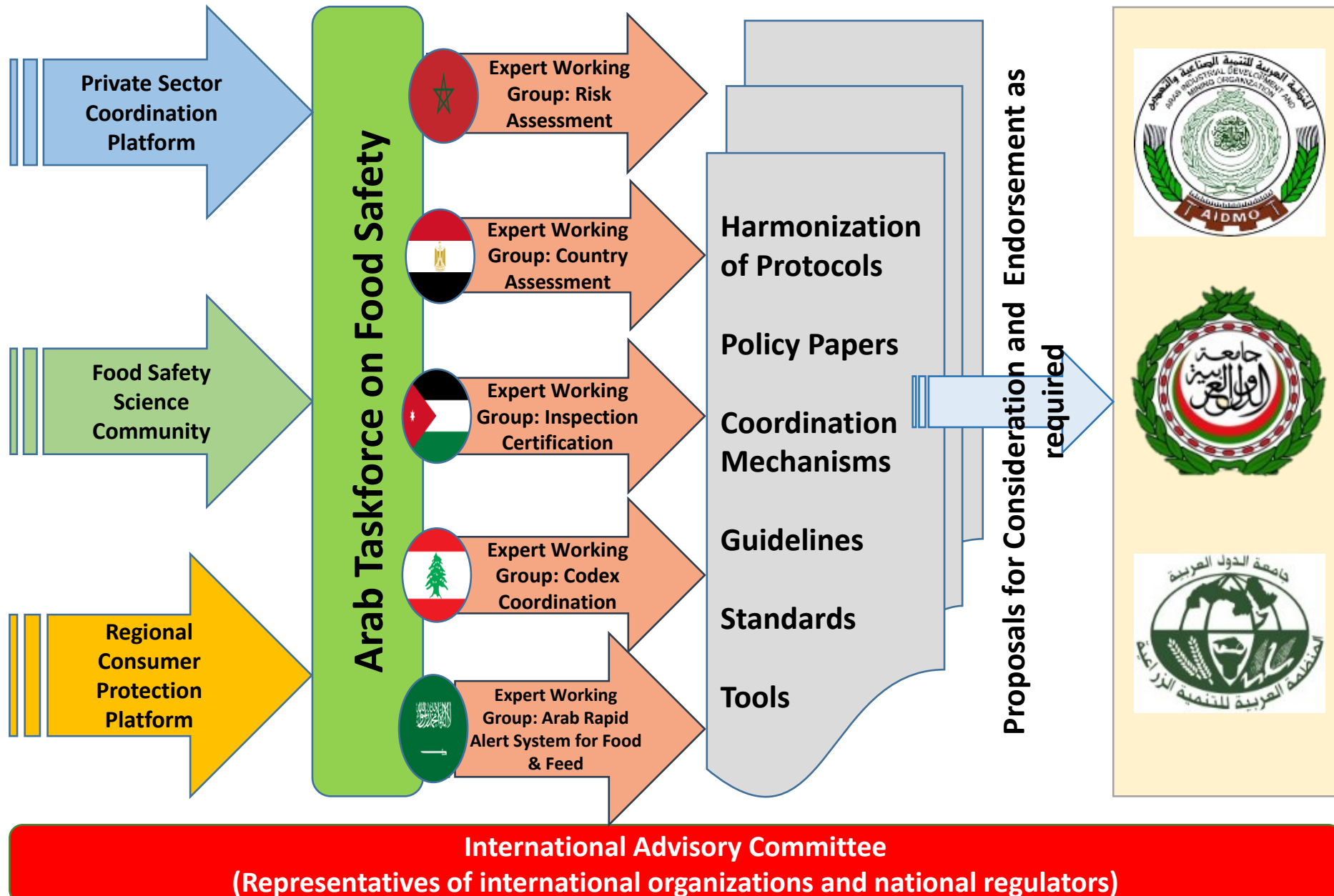
Technical and regional **coordination capacities** of partners **strengthened** for planning, implementation and management of a harmonized regional food safety system within the framework of GAFTA

Country

National **food safety systems** at target countries **improved** following regionally harmonized policies and protocols and according to international best practices and agreements



Steering Food Safety Coordination and Harmonization SAFE Project Approach



Arab Task Force on Food Safety (ATF)



A high level steering group providing advice & guidance to LAS, AIDMO & AOAD on coordination & harmonization of food safety interventions in the region



1st ATF Meeting – Mar 16 - Egypt



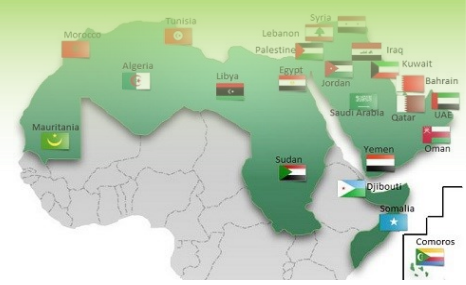
2nd ATF Meeting – Sept 16 - Egypt



3rd ATF Meeting – May 17 – Jordan

- Three ATF meetings (2016-2017)
- Elected Chair (Egypt) – 2 successive years
- Seventeen countries - Mauritania as observer
- Private sector & consumer protection regional bodies getting involved
- Priority working area identified & endorsed
- Expert working groups (EWGs) formulated & in action

Arab Task Force on Food Safety (ATF)



Members

➤ LAS

➤ AIDMO

➤ AOAD

➤ Algeria

➤ Bahrain

➤ Egypt

➤ Iraq

➤ Jordan

➤ Lebanon

➤ Libya

➤ Mauritania

➤ Morocco

➤ Oman

➤ Palestine

➤ Qatar

➤ Saudi Arabia

➤ Sudan

➤ Tunisia

➤ United Arab Emirates

➤ Yemen

➤ Kuwait

Institutions

Current

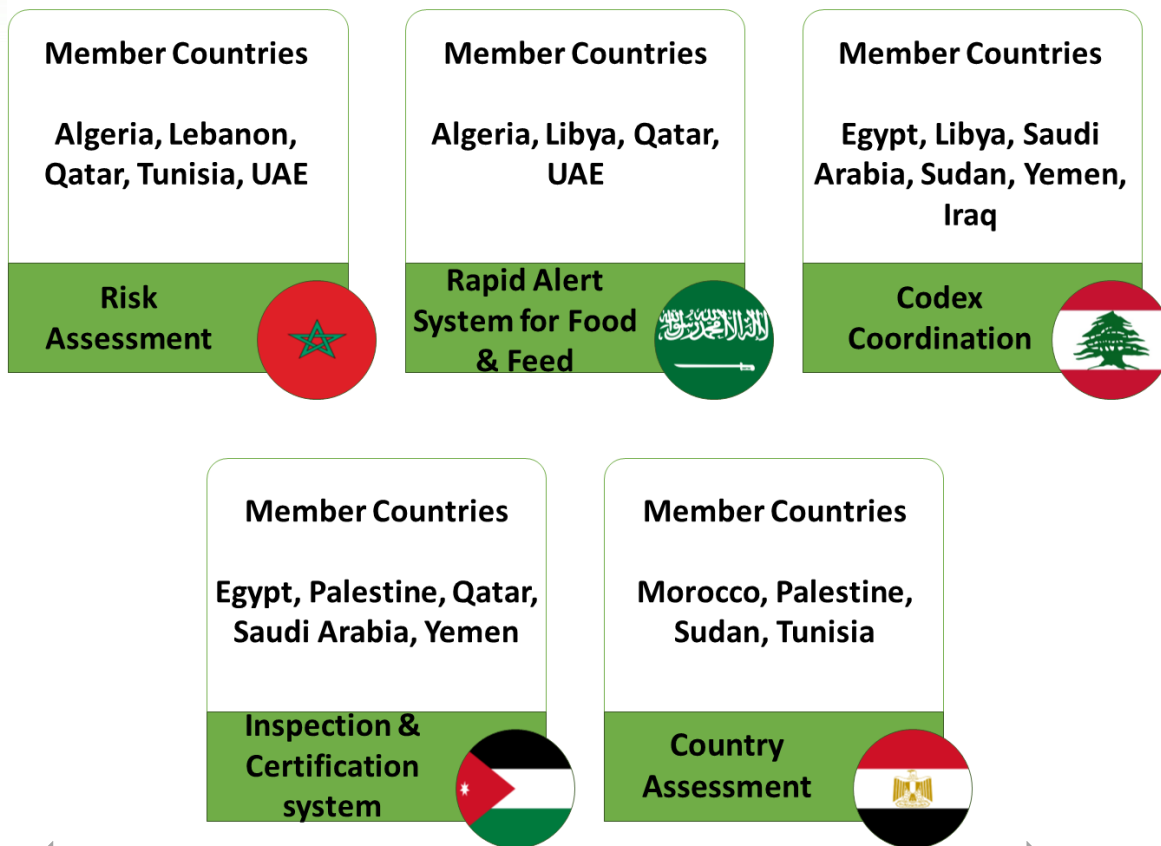
Observer

NO Nomination



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Experts Working Groups (EWGs)



Priority Working Areas – ATF Initiatives



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Inspection
Dec16 - Jordan



Risk Assessment
Dec16 - Morocco



Rapid Alert System
Jan 17 - Egypt



Country Assessment
Jan 17 - Egypt



Codex
Feb 17 - Lebanon



Country Level Support



- Detailed proposals received from Egypt and Palestine
 - ❑ Egypt: Joint declaration signed – Action plan developed & in place
 - ❑ Palestine: Coordination with FAO in place
- Other countries encouraged through circular of call for proposals
- Coordination in place with other specialized development agencies (FAO, STDF, ...)





Thank You



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SAFE in a Sida funded project implemented by UNIDO in partnership with LAS, AIDMO, AOAD