



# Live lihoods Centre

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International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## LIVELIHOOD INDICATORS GUIDE

In cooperation with:



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Humanitarian Aid  
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, there has been a significant effort to develop **key indicators** and to promote their use by different humanitarian actors and in different coordination fora, such as the Sphere Project, or in thematic groups, such as the gFSC<sup>1</sup>. A good example of these sets/groups of indicators are the Key Results Indicators (KRI<sup>2</sup>) for the sectors of food security, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, and shelter defined by DG ECHO<sup>3</sup> as a requirement for financing operations.

Despite considerable progress in the introduction of indicators in other sectors (such as, for instance, water and sanitation, shelter or nutrition), there is still a need in **Livelihoods programming** to have a set of **agreed evidence-based standard programme indicators, which facilitate design of quality projects** and, above all, **assessment of their impact and effects**.

*“A **programme indicator** is a specific, observable and measurable characteristic that can be used to show **changes or progress** a programme is making toward achieving a specific outcome.*

*The indicator should be focused (towards the expected outcome), clear and specific. The change measured by the indicator should represent progress that the programme hopes to make.*

*An indicator should be defined in precise, unambiguous terms that describe clearly and exactly what is being measured. Where practical, the indicator should give a relatively good idea of the data required and the population over which the indicator is measured.”*

Source: UN Women

In order to respond to this need, the **ECHO-ERC project**<sup>4</sup>, implemented by the **Livelihoods Centre** as part of a consortium with other organisations, set as an objective the development of a **list of key programme indicators** in French, Spanish and English. These should be produced in cooperation with other organisations and technical staff, with all humanitarian organisations or stakeholders<sup>5</sup> having free access.

<sup>1</sup> gFSC: global Food Security Cluster.

<sup>2</sup> ECHO KRI:

[http://dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/reference\\_documents/start#sectors\\_subsectors\\_and\\_kri](http://dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/reference_documents/start#sectors_subsectors_and_kri)

<sup>3</sup> European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO)

<sup>4</sup> ECHO-ERC project: Enhanced Response Capacity (ERC) programme, funded by ECHO. Developed between May 2014 and December 2015, the ERC project, led by the Livelihoods Centre, aims at “contributing to a better preparedness of humanitarian actors in Livelihoods and Cash-based interventions in emergency and recovery contexts”. Although this project holder (or organisation awarded the project) is the Spanish Red Cross (which hosts the Livelihoods Centre), the project involves many other organisations working as a consortium, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, the French Red Cross, Oxfam Intermon, CaLP (Cash Learning Partnership, comprising Oxfam GB, Save the Children, the British Red Cross, Action Against Hunger / ACF International and the Norwegian Refugee Council).

<sup>5</sup> Access: <http://www.livelihoodscentre.org/>;

## 2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this guide is to introduce **the resources offered** by the Livelihoods Centre, regarding **Livelihood Indicators**, to humanitarian practitioners (professional and/or volunteer), aiming at helping and supporting organisations to standardise the use of indicators and improve assessment of the impact of their livelihoods programmes.

### **Outcome Indicators**

*Analysis of **outcome indicators** is typically used to determine intermediate and long-term impacts or changes – e.g. in people's knowledge, attitudes and practices (behaviours).*

*(Indicators associated with the specific objectives of the Logical Frame)*

### **Output Indicators**

*Analysis of output indicators is typically used for project/programme monitoring to determine whether activities are occurring according to schedule and budget.*

*(Indicators associated with the outputs of the Logical Frame)*

*(Source: Monitoring and Evaluation Guide, IFRC)*

Accordingly, the resources developed by the Livelihoods Centre, with the involvement of different organisations and technical staff, are:

- The list of **Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators** (outcome level)
- A **Compilation of Livelihood Indicators**, classified by different criteria or dimensions.

It should be noted that producing these resources has been the result of a **comprehensive process of analysis**<sup>6</sup> of existing resources, combined with a **collaborative process** involving nearly 30 specialised members of different humanitarian organisations, funders and consultants. They have taken part at different levels, both in the higher-level design and definition, and in sharing documents or reviewing and validating the process and its results<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> The process followed to produce the two tools (the Key Indicators and the Compilation of Indicators) started mapping existing resources on livelihood indicators. It involved finding and reviewing around 90 different documents from over 40 organisations, consortia, research centres or donors. From these sources and after analysing their contents, 30 documents/indicator sets were selected, which involved the compilation of over 1300 indicators (see Annex VII for a list of sources used).

The analysis carried out to obtain the List of Key Programme Indicators involved: reviewing all compiled indicators and selecting the “outcome” ones; analysing and classifying outcome indicators by key words; identifying pooling mechanisms (which finally, following the ECHO KRI model, were the objectives/purposes), and classifying according to these mechanisms. After this, based on the existing compiled indicators within each group, an analysis was carried out for each objective/purpose to identify indicators (around two to four per objective) in a standardised manner and through a ‘generic’ definition allowing the existing variety to be taken into account.

<sup>7</sup> Following the prior analysis of the sources of livelihood indicators and the determination of a potential approach for developing both resources, in August 2015, the Livelihoods Centre invited over 70 people (specialists from different organisations and implementing agencies, consultants, etc.) to participate in the process of designing, defining and reviewing the Key Programme Indicators and the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators.

### 3. KEY LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME INDICATORS

#### 3.1. What are the Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators?

The **Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators** are included in a standardised list of 22 **Outcome** Indicators for the livelihoods sector. These are associated with all types of livelihoods interventions<sup>8</sup> and with all their phases (emergency, post-emergency, recovery and development).

These key indicators are **grouped by objective** (or purpose of the action they mean to measure), to make it easier for organisations to select and integrate them in their programmes/projects<sup>9</sup>.

This list of **Key Programme Indicators** facilitates standardisation or adoption (at organisation level) of a common or shared set of programme indicators for livelihoods interventions.

The adoption of a single or common list of indicators (at outcome level) should allow organisations to **standardise metrics** (in turn, enabling analysis of the outcome from all implemented livelihoods programmes), and to enlarge and improve the **quality of, and to reinforce consistency**, of the projects in this particular sector.

Characteristics of the **Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators**:

- The compendium of Key Indicators is the result of a **comprehensive analysis** of the compilation of over 30 different lists or source documents from 20 organisations, including donors (ECHO, EuropeAID...), NGOs (ACF, Concern, IFRC, Oxfam, etc.), clusters (gFSC, SPHERE...), etc.
- They are a **standardised list** with a **generic definition** which allows adaptation to the needs of livelihoods programmes.
- They are **programme** indicators<sup>10</sup> and thus associated with the implementation of livelihoods projects/programmes.
- They consider all types of livelihoods interventions and all their phases (emergency, post-emergency, recovery and development).
- They are **outcome** (or specific objective<sup>11</sup>) indicators, a prerequisite for obtaining a standardised and sufficiently-summarised list comprising all types of interventions.

<sup>8</sup> According to the IFRC Guidelines for Livelihoods Programming, the types of interventions are: provisioning, restarting, strengthening, diversifying and protecting livelihoods. The Guidelines may be found at [www.livelihoodscentre.org](http://www.livelihoodscentre.org), at the E-Library.

<sup>9</sup> See Annex IV, Objective/Purpose Dimension.

<sup>10</sup> See Annex: III, Outcome Level Dimension. There is mainly a distinction between situation (or context-monitoring) indicators, programme indicators and process indicators.

The Situation (or context) Indicators inform about the situation of a particular area (community, region / district, country, etc.) at a given moment (baseline). They allow international organisations to monitor changes and trends to trigger response interventions (if required), as well as to supervise any change of assumptions and risks considered in the project.

Programme Indicators, for their part, are quantitative or qualitative factors providing a simple and reliable way to measure outcomes, or to reflect changes related to the implemented project/programme.

Finally, Process Indicators (usually linked to the activity level) gauge the progress of the programme (activities), the way it is being carried out (efficacy in terms of time and resources), the use of resources and inputs, and the quality of the process.

<sup>11</sup> See Annex I, Logical Framework Model - Definition of Terms



- They follow a **structure or definition** which is similar to the one used for the ECHO KRI (Key Results Indicators)<sup>12</sup>, and provides complementary detailed information<sup>13</sup>.

### 3.2. How are they structured or defined?

The **Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators** are grouped by the **objective** (or purpose) of the action they mean to measure, to make it easier for organisations to select and integrate them in their programmes/projects.

**Eight** different **categories** of objectives/purposes have been determined<sup>14</sup>, ranging from the scope of survival or livelihood protection thresholds, the access to productive inputs and services, the diversification and improvement of sources of income, the protection of livelihoods and natural resources (as one of the main capitals to preserve), to promotion activities and change in the structures and processes that regulate and enable improvement of livelihoods development.

Each objective, depending on its nature or scope, contains between one and four associated indicators.

*For instance, for the objective/purpose **Productivity Enhancement**, two key indicators have been defined:*

- *Percentage of target beneficiaries (households, productive organizations, etc.) that improve their production [specify type] compared to a normal year or baseline [specify if this production increase is due to new practices, new technology or improved inputs].*
- *Percentage of target beneficiaries (households, productive organizations, etc.) that reduce their production losses [specify type] compared to a normal year (or baseline), resulting from the use of improved production practices [specify which].*

In addition, each indicator includes, together with the indicator itself, a series of **detail elements** defining its **scope**, type of proposed disaggregation or detail information, and **how and how often** to measure it<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>12</sup> ECHO KRI: [http://dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/reference\\_documents/start#sectors\\_subsectors\\_and\\_kri](http://dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/reference_documents/start#sectors_subsectors_and_kri)

<sup>13</sup> See Annex II, Elements of an Indicator.

<sup>14</sup> See Annex IV, Objective/Purpose Dimension. Note that there are only eight categories for Programme Indicators while, in addition, the Compilation of Indicators includes further categories that allow grouping or categorising, for instance, the situation and the process/quality indicators.

<sup>15</sup> See Annex II, Elements of an Indicator.

**Example:** We take one of the previous indicators:

**Indicator:** Percentage of target beneficiaries (households, productive organizations, etc.) that improve their production [specify type] compared to a normal year or baseline [specify if this production increase is due to new practices, new technology or improved inputs].

The accompanying detail elements are (in brief):

**Description:** Change in production of target population.

This indicator is focused on production increase (or improvement) achieved through different possible interventions...

- Support of crop or forestry production.
- Support of livestock or fish farming.
- Use or promotion of improved techniques or inputs (e.g. improved seeds)...

**Detail / Disaggregate by:**

Geographical area / livelihood zone; gender, age and other relevant criteria (ethnic, political or religious); wealth / livelihood group; period to achieve the objective...

**Data Source:** Primary and secondary information...

Unit of Measurement: Target population (or households, cooperatives...).

Methods for Data Collection: Secondary information analysis (censuses of production for a typical average year); surveys; focus groups; production records...

**Measurement Guidance/Recommendations:**

Improvement threshold must be defined in advance, using the baseline and the secondary information gathered.

[primary production] Consider the seasonal calendar to determine when to measure the indicator.

If required, link the increase of productivity (or quality improvement) with the use of new production practices, technologies or improved inputs...

**Example:** "100% of target productive organisations in Gambela region improve their crop production by at least 20% relative to baseline, thanks to the use of good agricultural practices."

### 3.3. Where to Find them



The Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators, like the other resources developed in the ECHO-ERC project, are at:

- <http://www.livelihoodscentre.org/>

From this link, any person or organisation may download the list of Key Indicators in **Excel** or **PDF** format, in any of the **three languages** (French, Spanish and English).

## Key Indicators

The **Livelihoods Resource Centre (LRC)**, in consultation with practitioners (specialized in Livelihoods and Monitoring & Evaluation) from different organizations (and after analyzing more than thirty different indicators sets), has developed the livelihood key indicators' list (included in this document) as part of a coordinated effort to achieve a standardized tool that will enable a wide-sight or analysis of livelihood programs' impact and to improve organizations accountability.

 ERC-ECHO. Livelihoods Key Program Indicators vNov2015.pdf 2422.97 KB  
 ERC-ECHO. Livelihoods Key Program Indicators vNov2015.xlsx 37.91 KB

KEY INDICATORS AS TARGET		CODE
SURVIVAL AND LIVELIHOODS PROTECTION THRESHOLD		^
> Number/percentage of target households [have enough <food, cash, incomes> to, enabled to] meet their survival threshold		KOI-1-1a
> Number/percentage of target households [have enough <food, cash, incomes> to, enabled to] meet their livelihood protection threshold		KOI-1-1b
> Number/percentage of target population that <restore, improve/strengthen> their livelihood activities <to, from> <pre disaster level, baseline level, last year -same period-, normal year>		KOI-1-2
> Number/percentage of target households reduce their [damaging] coping strategies compared with <post disaster level, or baseline level, last year -same period-, normal year>		KOI-1-3
OWNERSHIP AND ACCESS TO PRODUCTIVE ASSETS		v

*Key Indicators access web page, list, detail access and files to download*

Resources > Indicators > Indicator > Number/percentage of target households [have enough <food, cash, incomes> to, enabled to] meet th...

## Number/percentage of target households [have enough <food, cash, incomes> to, enabled to] meet their livelihood protection threshold

<b>Code:</b>	KOI-1-1b
<b>Result Level:</b>	Outcome
<b>Objectives:</b>	Survival and livelihoods protection threshold
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Change in household capacity to meet their livelihood protection threshold</p> <p>This indicator uses HEA/HES approach to determine households' livelihood protection threshold, and population ability to meet their basic needs, using their coping strategies or other strategies, as per the baseline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It includes food/cash distributions interventions</li> <li>- It includes livelihoods restarting interventions (sources of food and income)</li> </ul> <p>Definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livelihood protection threshold : The Livelihood protection Threshold represents the total income required to sustain local livelihoods. This means total expenditure to:</li> </ul>

*Web page to access detail of one Key Indicator*

## 3.4. How to Use them

The list of Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators is used at two levels:

- At the level of the organisation, adopting this list as its standard indicators (for the livelihoods sector). The aim is to facilitate the **design of quality projects** and to achieve **aggregated metrics of the impact of all livelihoods interventions**.



Use of **common indicators** in all the programmes/projects implemented by an organisation allows aggregation of measures of the outcome and analysis of the global quality and scope of the response, regardless of country/region, type of intervention and type of crisis/emergency being addressed.

*Examples of key programme indicators are the ECHO Key Result Indicators (KRI) on food security, nutrition, etc.*

*Use of these KRI allows ECHO, as a donor, to gather **information on the impact of the programmes/projects it funds** in an aggregated way, whatever the implementing organisation.*

- At the level of technical staff, making **selection and adaptation** of one or several key indicators easier (for specialists identifying/formulating livelihoods projects).  
It is proposed that the process of selecting indicators starts from the **objectives or purposes** the project/programme aims to deliver.  
Equally, the adaptation of the selected indicators should be based on the project definition (geographical area, target population, expected production increase, etc.), as shown in the following example.

#### *Sample adaptation*

*Generic definition of an indicator:*

**Number/percentage of target population <households, producers organizations/associations, SMEs> that improve their production by (specify how much) [specify type of livelihood activity, if necessary], [due to use of <new production practices, new technology, etc.>]**

[...]: optional detail (can be added or not)

<...>: options, select one

(...): explanatory comment

**"100% of target productive organisations improve their crop production by at least 20% thanks to the use of good agricultural practices."**

## 4. COMPILATION OF LIVELIHOOD INDICATORS

### 4.1. What is the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators?

In addition to the list of **Key Livelihoods Programme Indicators** (introduced in the previous section), and stemming from their definition, the Livelihoods Centre has produced a second tool, the **Compilation of Livelihood Indicators**.

This resource, as its name suggests, comes from mapping, analysing and assembling existing livelihood-indicator lists. The aim of this compilation is to provide humanitarian organisations staff (both professional and volunteer), a set/list of livelihood indicators. In this way, they have a **wide range of examples** available to choose from and to adapt to their programme requirements.

Unlike the Key Indicators list, the Compilation provides an inventory of indicators that keep the definition of the original source (the organisation which produced them), **with their specification and details**. They have nevertheless gone through a standardisation and classification process to allow use (search). Also, the Compilation groups indicators, not just “outcome” indicators (as with Key Indicators) but at all levels: programme (impact, outcome and output indicators)<sup>16</sup>, situation (context monitoring) and process (quality).

Characteristics of the **Compilation of Livelihood Indicators**:

- The list of indicators comes from the compilation of over 30 **different lists or source documents** from over 20 organisations, including donors (ECHO, EuropeAID...), NGOs (ACF, Concern, IFRC, Oxfam, etc.), and clusters (gFSC, SPHERE...).
- The initial compilation has been **standardised** in order to avoid repetitions and to unify similar indicators. Finally, it was systematically analysed to associate different elements of classification<sup>17</sup> to each indicator.
- The compilation includes **all levels of programme indicators** (impact, outcome and output indicators), as well as situation (or context monitoring) and process (or quality) indicators<sup>18</sup>.
- It brings together mainly livelihood indicators, although **food security and nutrition**<sup>19</sup> are included.

<sup>16</sup> See Annex: Logical Framework Model - Definition of Terms

<sup>17</sup> Basically, the standardisation process involved: 1) Removing recurrent indicators and merging/unifying similar indicators, after which more than 500 indicators were left (of over 1300 found after mapping). 2) Adding particular detail fields, such as “disaggregate by”, “data source” or “trend”. 3) Linking each indicator to the several classification fields (objective, outcome level, key words, sector/subsector), which allows an easier search within the compilation.

<sup>18</sup> During the analysis each indicator has been given one (or several) levels of outcome. One of the criteria of analysis for this process has been to keep the level of outcome set by the source and, where necessary, to assign additional levels.

<sup>19</sup> Food security and nutrition are two sectors which are closely linked to livelihoods and, in general, to the ability of people/households to access and meet their basic needs.

Unlike the list of Key Indicators, focused on the livelihoods sector (the objective in mind), the Compilation of Indicators has allowed including the above two sectors. This is thanks to the nature and conception of the compilation (i.e., it's a unifying resource seeking to provide a wide range of indicator examples at all levels, with classification and search mechanisms).

- The Compilation is **classified according to different analytical dimensions** (outcome level<sup>20</sup>, sector/subsector, objective/purpose, key words), which are used as search instruments. Dimensions are explained in the next section and broken down in the annexes to this document.
- **Detail data** for each indicator are mainly information included in the source documents. It should be emphasised that not all the lists of source indicators had the level of definition and detail used in the Compilation. Therefore, the relevant fields are empty in some cases.

### **Example of detail data:**

**Description:** *Change in production of target population.*

*This indicator is focused on production increase (or improvement) achieved through different possible interventions...*

- *Support of crop or forestry production.*
- *Support of livestock or fish farming.*
- *Use or promotion of improved techniques or inputs (e.g. improved seeds)...*

### **Detail / Disaggregate by:**

*Geographical area / livelihood zone; gender, age and other relevant criteria (ethnic, political or religious); wealth / livelihood group; period to achieve the objective...*

**Data Source:** *Primary and secondary information...*

*Unit of Measurement: Target population (or households, cooperatives...).*

*Methods for Data Collection: Secondary information analysis (censuses of production for a typical average year); surveys; focus groups; production records...*

### **Measurement Guidance/Recommendations:**

*Improvement threshold must be defined in advance, using the baseline and the secondary information gathered.*

*[primary production] Consider the seasonal calendar to determine when to measure the indicator.*

*If required, link the increase of productivity (or quality improvement) with the use of new production practices, technologies or improved inputs...*

## **4.2. How is it structured or defined?**

The **Compilation of Livelihood Indicators** comes from the systematic analysis of over 1300 indicators from different sources. This compilation, unlike the Key Indicators (whose aim is to provide a limited list of outcome-level indicators to unify and group together impact measurements), is defined by an **approach based on ceilings**, i.e., it aims to provide a wide range of livelihood indicators.

Due to this approach to the Compilation of Indicators, it was deemed necessary to classify the standardised list according to different aspects or **dimensions**<sup>21</sup>. These, in turn, will allow users to search and to access the indicators that best fit their needs.

<sup>20</sup> The classification of “outcome level” includes not only programme indicators (level of impact, outcome and output), but also situation and process/quality indicators.

<sup>21</sup> Determination of dimensions to classify indicators, as with other design considerations for these tools, arises from the analysis of existing sources, and from the the working group’s review and inputs.

## Analysis Dimensions and Classification of the Compilation of Indicators:

**Outcome Level<sup>22</sup>:** It associates the indicator with one (or more) levels, depending on whether it is a:

- Programme indicator: impact, outcome and output<sup>23</sup>
- Situation indicator (or context monitoring): situation
- Process (or quality) indicator: process

**Sector and Subsector<sup>24</sup>:** Sector is the area relating indicators (mainly) to the group of livelihood activities (production sector) or to the structures and services that support them (production services, production training/capacities, structures and processes, etc.), although it may include more general options.

Subsector, on the other hand, is a second categorisation within the sector.

Note that not all sectors have subsectors.

**Objective / Purpose<sup>25</sup>:** This category or dimension defines the specific “objective/purpose” related to the action the indicator is measuring.

Each indicator has one or several associated objectives, depending on its scope. Unlike the Key Programme Indicators, the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators uses 15 different categories due to its larger scope. These categories are linked to the “outcome level” dimension:

- Nine objectives/purposes linked to the programme outcome levels (impact, outcome and output)
- Four objectives/purposes linked to the situation/context outcome level
- Two objectives/purposes linked to the process outcome level

**Key Words:** Concepts which provide information and classify indicators by:

- Livelihood capitals (physical, financial, social, human and natural)
- Types of livelihoods intervention (asset provisioning, restarting, strengthening, diversifying and protecting)

### **Examples of classification:**

**Indicator:** “Number of households/cooperatives supported with productive inputs”

**Outcome Level:** Output

**Objective:** Ownership of, and access to, production assets

**Sector/Subsector:** Primary production: agriculture, livestock farming, fishing, forestry

**Income generation and employment:** Income generation activities

**Key Words:** Physical capital, access to productive inputs, input distribution...

**Relevance:** Yes

**Indicator:** “Disaster-affected communities and people are not negatively impacted as a result of humanitarian action”

**Outcome Level:** Process

**Objective:** Quality and Minimum Standards

**Key words:** Implementation quality

**Relevance:** Yes

<sup>22</sup> See Annex II, Definition of Outcome Levels

<sup>23</sup> See Annex I, Logical Framework Model - Definition of Terms

<sup>24</sup> See Annex V, Sectors and Subsectors

<sup>25</sup> See Annex IV, Objective/Purpose Dimension. Note that there are 15 different categories for the Compilation of Indicators: nine programme-related (eight used for the Key Indicators plus one referring to food security and nutrition); two related to the process/quality indicators, and four related to the situation/context indicators.

- Other non-categorised aspects (genre, urban context, etc.)<sup>26</sup>

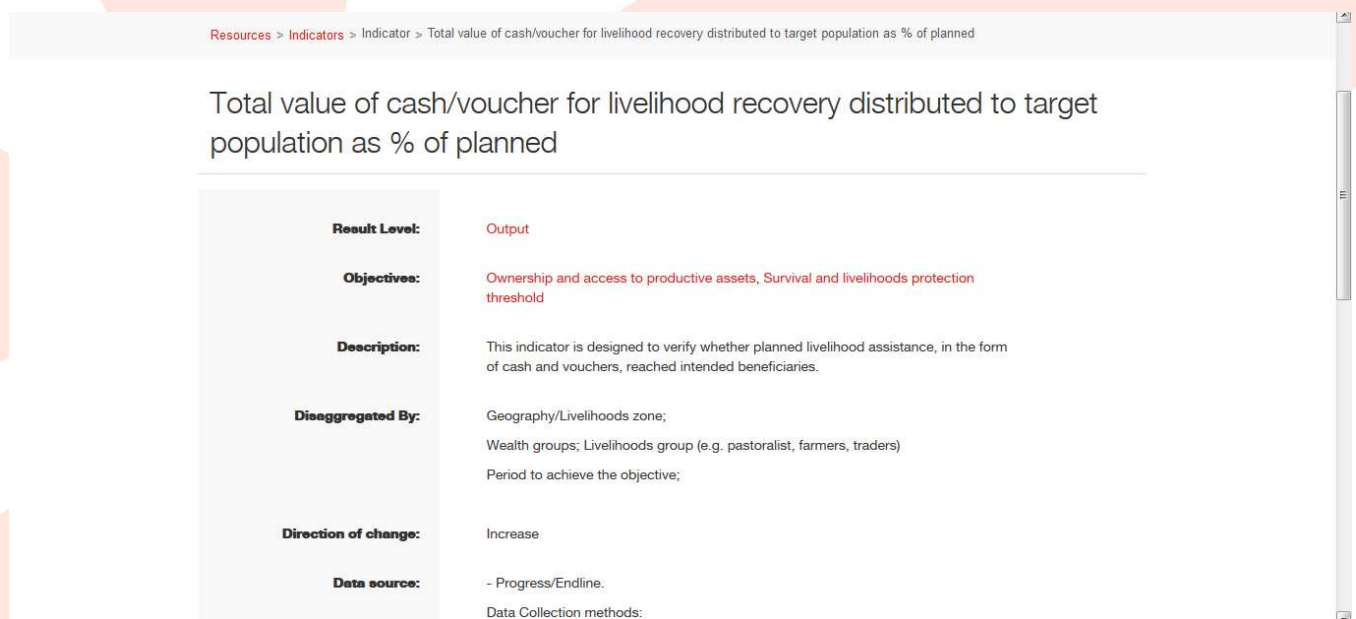
According to the source(s) of the indicators, they will also include, in addition to the indicator itself and the above-mentioned classifying information (analysis dimensions), **detail** information defining its **scope**, type of proposed **disaggregation**, and **how and how often** to measure it<sup>27</sup>.

## 4.3. Where to Find it

The list of the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators, like the other resources developed in the ECHO-ERC project, is at:

- <http://www.livelihoodscentre.org/>

From this link, any person or organisation may access the full list, see the detail information of the existing indicators, do searches and download their results.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.livelihoodscentre.org/>. The breadcrumb trail is: Resources > Indicators > Indicator > Total value of cash/voucher for livelihood recovery distributed to target population as % of planned. The main heading is 'Total value of cash/voucher for livelihood recovery distributed to target population as % of planned'. Below this is a table with the following details:

<b>Result Level:</b>	Output
<b>Objectives:</b>	Ownership and access to productive assets, Survival and livelihoods protection threshold
<b>Description:</b>	This indicator is designed to verify whether planned livelihood assistance, in the form of cash and vouchers, reached intended beneficiaries.
<b>Disaggregated By:</b>	Geography/Livelihoods zone; Wealth groups; Livelihoods group (e.g. pastoralist, farmers, traders) Period to achieve the objective;
<b>Direction of change:</b>	Increase
<b>Data source:</b>	- Progress/Endline. Data Collection methods:

*Web page to access detail of one of the Compilation Indicators*

The Compilation of Indicators is in three languages (Spanish, French and English).

<sup>26</sup> See Annex IV, Key Words.

<sup>27</sup> See Annex II, Elements of an Indicator.



### 4.4. How to Use it

The Compilation of Indicators should be used mainly by searching dimensions, as defined and shown before:

- Outcome Level
- Objective / Purpose
- Sector / Subsector
- Key Words

The final list contains over 500 indicators. Therefore, it is recommended to **refine the search as much as possible** using the four dimensions.

This search refinement will become even more necessary when searching for outcome or output indicators (larger number and more specific), than when doing it for impact indicators (smaller number and more general).

*Example: let us implement a project which has an element whose **purpose** is to “**improve production**”.*

*Firstly, we recommend filtering the search by the **outcome level** (“outcome”, for instance) and by the **objective/purpose** “improve production”.*

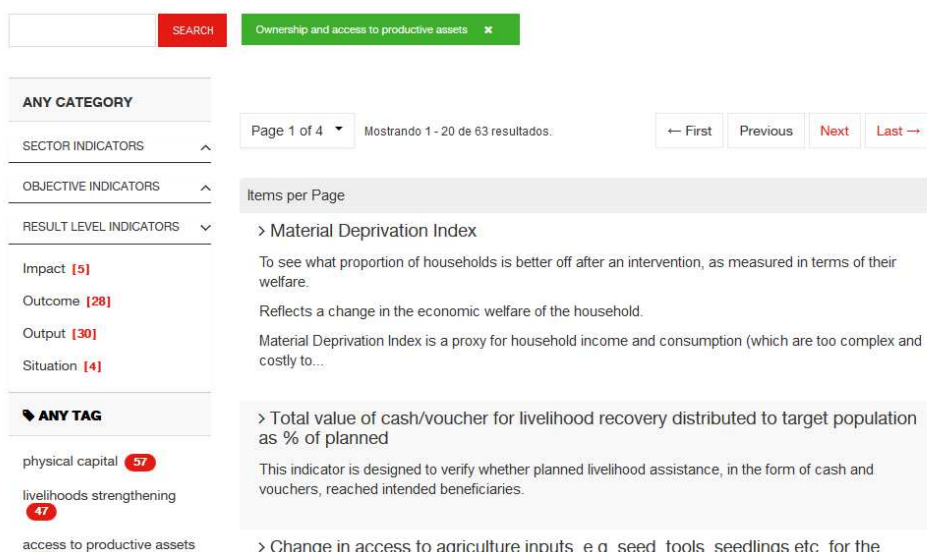
*The search will return more than 40 instances of different indicators.*

*If we want to promote the agricultural sector, we will refine the search using the “sector/subsector” dimension, through: **Sector** “primary production”, **Subsector** “agriculture”.*

**It is recommended** to start searching by the “outcome level” and “objective/purpose” dimensions. From this first result and depending on the number of indicators obtained, it is advised to continue refining the search by using any of the “sector/subsector” and “key words” dimensions.

In addition to these four dimensions, the “**relevance**” filter can also be applied. After going through the standardisation process, the Compilation includes over 500 indicators. This is the reason why the relevance categorisation has been introduced for the remaining outcome levels (impact, outcome, output, etc.), in order to facilitate the selection process for the livelihood specialists. This additional categorisation is also applied to the Key Indicators (explained in the previous section).

The web page has a **search engine**, so that any user may access and search one or several dimensions at a time, see the results on the screen and **download** them, if required.



The screenshot shows a web interface for searching livelihood indicators. At the top, there is a search bar with a 'SEARCH' button and a filter button labeled 'Ownership and access to productive assets'. Below the search bar, there are three main sections: 'ANY CATEGORY', 'ANY TAG', and a list of results. The 'ANY CATEGORY' section includes 'SECTOR INDICATORS', 'OBJECTIVE INDICATORS', and 'RESULT LEVEL INDICATORS'. The 'ANY TAG' section includes 'physical capital', 'livelihoods strengthening', and 'access to productive assets'. The results section shows three items: 'Material Deprivation Index', 'Total value of cash/voucher for livelihood recovery distributed to target population as % of planned', and 'Change in access to agriculture inputs, e.g. seed, tools, seedlings etc. for the'. Each item has a brief description. The interface also includes pagination controls (Page 1 of 4, Mostrando 1 - 20 de 63 resultados) and navigation buttons (First, Previous, Next, Last).

*Web page to access the search engine of the Compilation of Indicators*

Equally, any user may download the complete set of indicators in Excel format, in order to use them without accessing the web.

## 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Also, a special thanks to all those who directly or indirectly contributed to this collaborative effort.

## ANNEXES

### ANNEX I. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MODEL - DEFINITION OF TERMS

IFRC logical framework (logframe) – definition of terms			
OBJECTIVES (What we want to achieve)	INDICATORS (How to measure change)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION (Where/how to get information)	ASSUMPTIONS (What else to be aware of)
<b>Goal</b> The long-term results that an intervention seeks to achieve, which may be contributed to by factors outside the intervention	<b>Impact indicators</b> Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria that provide a simple and reliable means to measure achievement or reflect changes connected to the goal	How the information on the indicator will be collected ( <i>can include who will collect it and how often</i> )	External conditions necessary if the goal is to contribute to the next level of intervention
<b>Outcomes</b> <sup>36</sup> The primary result(s) that an intervention seeks to achieve, most commonly in terms of the knowledge, attitudes or practices of the target group	<b>Outcome indicators</b> As above, connected to the stated outcomes	As above	External conditions not under the direct control of the intervention necessary if the outcome is to contribute to reaching intervention goal
<b>Outputs</b> The tangible products, goods and services and other immediate results that lead to the achievement of outcomes	<b>Output indicators</b> As above, connected to the stated outputs	As above	External factors not under the direct control of the intervention which could restrict the outputs leading to the outcomes
<b>Activities</b> <sup>37</sup> The collection of tasks to be carried out in order to achieve the outputs	<b>Process indicators</b> As above, connected to the stated activities	As above	External factors not under the direct control of the intervention which could restrict progress of activities

Source: Monitoring and Evaluation Guide, IFRC

## ANNEX II. ELEMENTS OF AN INDICATOR

Elements that make up and define an indicator<sup>28</sup>:

Element	Description
Identifier/Code	<p>Indicator identifier (internal code).</p> <p>For <b>Key Programme Indicators</b> (at outcome level), the identifier is made up of: KOI-N-M, where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KOI: denotes it is a Key Indicator</li> <li>- N: specifies the associated objective, and</li> <li>- M: is the sequential number</li> </ul> <p>The remaining indicators only have an internal database code.</p>
Outcome Level	<p>Type of indicator defined by the level of impact/change it seeks to measure, according to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programme indicator (impact, outcome and output)<sup>29</sup></li> <li>- Situation (or context monitoring) indicator</li> <li>- Process (or quality) indicator</li> </ul> <p>The outcome level has been standardised for all Compilation Indicators. In addition to the outcome level given for standardisation, the original level assigned by the source (i.e., the organisation that developed the indicator) has been kept, as a rule.</p>
Indicator	<b>Indicator</b>
Description / Definition	<p>It describes, or provides details about the indicator: what it is, which types of intervention it may be associated with, etc.)</p> <p>The description of Key Indicators also includes the definition of any technical terms that appear in the indicator, if required.</p>
Trend or Direction of Change	<p>It defines the trend the indicator follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase</li> <li>- Decrease</li> <li>- Stabilise or increase</li> <li>- Stabilise or decrease</li> </ul>
Data Source	<p>It shows data sources from which information can be obtained (baseline and endline, secondary information, etc.), and the means of obtaining it (surveys, observation, focus groups, etc.).</p> <p>Key Indicators also contain the Unit of Measurement.</p>

<sup>28</sup> Note that this definition is the same that has been used for the two tools (i.e., the Key Indicators and the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators). For this reason, use of some fields is explained or specified for Key Programme Indicators.

<sup>29</sup> See Annex I, Logical Framework Model - Definition of Terms



Element	Description
Measurement Guidance	<p>It complements the Data Source information with other information about the way in which the indicator may be measured.</p> <p>Possible aspects to measure, when to do so, what should be taken into account (e.g. seasonal calendar), limitations in measuring, etc.</p>
Sector	<p><u>Search and classification element</u><sup>30</sup></p> <p>This is the area relating indicators (mainly) to the group of livelihood activities (production sector) or to the structures and services that support them, although it may include more general options.</p>
Subsector	<p><u>Search and classification element</u></p> <p>Subsector is a second categorisation within the sector. Not all sectors have subsectors.</p>
Objective / Purpose:	<p><u>Search and classification element</u><sup>31</sup></p> <p>Key element to select indicators.</p> <p>This is the specific objective related to the action the indicator is measuring.</p> <p>Each indicator is related to one or several programme objectives to which they contribute.</p>
Key Words	<p><u>Search and classification element</u><sup>32</sup></p> <p>Key words associated to the indicator, providing information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capital (physical, financial, social, etc.)</li> <li>- Type of livelihoods intervention (restarting, strengthening, protecting)</li> <li>- Other non-categorised aspects</li> </ul>

<sup>30</sup> Search and classification elements (key words, sector and subsector) are fields that have been created to support the indicator search and selection within the Compilation of Indicators. These fields are also a part of the definition of Key Indicators, as these are included in the Compilation.

<sup>31</sup> See Annex IV, Objective/Purpose Dimension.

<sup>32</sup> See Annex IV, Key Words.

## ANNEX III. OUTCOME LEVEL DIMENSION

Outcome Level	Definition
<b>Programme Level</b>	
<b>Effect / Impact</b>	<p>Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria that provide a simple and reliable means to measure achievement or reflect changes connected to the goal (general objective). (Source: FICR)</p> <p>It refers to the lasting results representing change in household conditions - the positive or negative, intended or unintended long-term change/results that are brought about directly or indirectly by an organization's activities. (Source: OXFAM GB)</p>
<b>Outcome</b>	<p>Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria that provide a simple and reliable means of measuring achievement or reflecting changes connected to the stated outcomes (specific objectives). (Source: FICR)</p> <p>Indicators that describe the medium-term effects of an intervention's outputs. Outcomes are the primary change you are trying to bring about in your work. (Source: OXFAM GB)</p>
<b>Output</b>	<p>Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria that provide a simple and reliable means of measuring achievement or reflecting changes connected with the stated outputs (results). (Source: FICR)</p> <p>Describe the most immediate effects of an activity, the results over which there is most control - tangible products, goods and services, and other immediate changes produced by an intervention that led to the achievement of outcomes (Source: OXFAM GB)</p>
<b>Situation</b>	
<b>Situation</b>	<p>The Situation (or context) Indicators inform about the situation of a particular area (community, region/district, country, etc.) at a given moment (baseline). They allow international organisations to monitor changes and trends to trigger response interventions (if required), as well as to supervise the change of assumptions and risks considered in the project.</p>
<b>Process</b>	
<b>Process</b>	<p>Indicators that are usually linked to the activity level and that gauge the progress of the programme (activities), the way it is being carried out (efficacy in terms of time and resources), the use of resources and inputs, and the quality of the process.</p> <p>Quantitative and/or qualitative criteria that provide a simple and reliable means to measure achievement or reflect changes connected with the stated activities. (Source: FICR)</p>

## ANNEX IV. OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE DIMENSION

This dimension is based on the specific objectives linked to livelihoods, and indicators are grouped according to those objectives (both **Key Programme Indicators** and the **Compilation of Indicators**).

Categories in this dimension are related to the Outcome Level dimension. In this sense, nine objectives/purposes which are related to the Programme Indicators have been defined, together with four relating to Situation/Context indicators and two, to Process/Quality indicators.

**Programme Indicators** (impact, outcome and output):

- Food security and nutrition
- Scope of survival and/or livelihood protection thresholds
- Ownership of, and access to, production assets
- Enhancement of productivity
- Increase and diversification of sources of income
- Acquisition and application of knowledge related to livelihood activities
- Access to livelihood-support services and markets
- Risk reduction and natural resources management
- Improvement of policies, regulations and rights for livelihood development

**Situation/Context Indicators:**

- Situation relating to food security and nutrition
- Situation of livelihoods
- Situation of economic security and well-being
- Situation of markets and livelihood-support services

**Process /Quality) Indicators:**

- Implementation process
- Implementation quality and minimum standards

This is one of the main **elements for classifying indicators**, which facilitates their search. Below, each category defined for this dimension is described.

Brief Description	Description
Programme	
Food security and nutrition	Food security and nutrition Objective/purpose only exists in the Compilation of Indicators. Please note that the Compilation also includes food security and nutrition indicators, which are classified in this objective.

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Brief Description	Description
Scope of survival and/or livelihood protection thresholds	<p>Change or improvement of household ability to meet survival and/or livelihood protection thresholds (HEA analysis).</p> <p>It includes interventions whose objective is to provide households with the capacity required to respond to their immediate needs, to restore their livelihoods, or to change and reduce the use of negative adaptation strategies.</p>
Ownership of, and access to, production assets	<p>Change in quantity of productive assets owned or accessed by households, communities and productive associations.</p> <p>It includes the capacity to maintain or replace productive assets after an emergency, and the improvement of or access to better assets.</p> <p>It considers equitable access to productive assets.</p>
Enhancement of productivity	<p>Increase of productivity (primary production, income-generation activities, etc.), productivity meaning the relationship between production and resources/time dedicated to obtain them.</p> <p>It includes the increase of production, the reduction of resources used and/or the reduction of production losses.</p>
Increase and diversification of sources of income	<p>Increase and diversification of net income of households/productive organisations in a sustainable way.</p> <p>It includes any type of intervention that promotes and strengthens employment and self-employment creation (formal or informal), and income-source diversification, and/or that stabilises and reinforces benefit generation (net income) from the existing sources of income.</p>
Acquisition and application of knowledge related to livelihood activities	<p>Improvement of livelihood knowledge (production practices, business management), and application of that knowledge and those practices.</p> <p>It includes both aspects of acquisition of new KNOWLEDGE and its practical APPLICATION.</p>
Access to livelihood-support services and markets	<p>Increase the capacity of households / communities / productive associations to access markets and livelihood-support services (formal or informal).</p> <p>It includes access to markets, training or services of extension agents, veterinary services, legal services (legalisation of land ownership, regularisation of employment), and all kind of formal/informal financial services (credit, insurance).</p>

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Brief Description	Description
Risk reduction and natural resources management	<p>Protection and strengthening of household/community livelihoods through activities and promotion of good practices in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and/or natural resources management.</p> <p>It includes all kind of activities aimed at strengthening, adapting and protecting household/community livelihoods, as well as their productive assets/capitals (such as the natural or physical capitals) against natural hazards or damaging production practices.</p>
Improvement of policies, regulations and rights for livelihood development	<p>Strengthening or creating a favourable environment for livelihood development.</p> <p>It includes advocacy interventions (at community, local and national level) to allow equal rights, access and opportunities for the sustainable development of livelihoods; as well as interventions aimed at reinforcing local and national structures and processes that support livelihood development and protection.</p>
<b>Situation/context</b>	
Situation relating to food security and nutrition	Baseline information and constant monitoring of the condition of food security and nutrition (IPC phase, malnutrition rates, etc.).
Situation of livelihoods	Baseline information and monitoring issues related to the condition of livelihoods (harvest monitoring, employment/unemployment levels, livelihood diversification levels, etc.).
Situation of economic security and well-being	Baseline information and monitoring the level of economic security (follow-up of number of people living below the poverty line, goods access rate, etc.)
Situation of markets and livelihood-support services	Baseline information and monitoring status of markets and other livelihood-support services (price monitoring and commodities availability at markets; number of financial services and/or level of their coverage; number and/or range of extension agents' services, etc.).
<b>Process/Quality</b>	
Implementation process	Category linked to activity-level indicators relating the rate of progress and scope of the project/programme.
Implementation quality and minimum standards	Category linked to activity-level indicators relating implementation quality levels and range of standards (level of participation of beneficiaries, other stakeholders and/or local authorities, establishing accountability mechanisms, etc.).



## ANNEX V. SECTOR – SUBSECTOR DIMENSION

Sector and subsector are classificatory dimensions of the Compilation of Livelihood Indicators.

Classification by sector - subsector relates indicators (mainly) to the group of livelihood activities (production sector) or to the structures and services that support them (production services, production training/capacities, structures and processes, etc.), although it may include more general options.

Subsector, on the other hand, is a second categorisation within the sector. Note that not all sectors have subsectors.

Sectors and subsectors used are:

Sector / Subsector	Description
Economic security	General sector that groups together indicators related to achieving or exceeding the livelihood protection threshold.
Primary production: Agriculture Livestock farming Fishing Forestry	Under the designation “primary production or activities” are included economic practices that involve making use of, or extracting, natural resources.  It includes those indicators related to livelihoods of the primary sector and, therefore, to livelihood activities which are mostly sources of food and income.  This is the case for activities such as agriculture, livestock farming, forestry, fishing, hunting and mining.
Income generation and employment Income generation activities Employment	Group of indicators related to economic practices directed at obtaining income from the secondary or tertiary sectors (processing primary production, transport, trade, services, etc.), either through self-employment or through employment by others.  It may be the production of goods and services or trade, or a combination, either in rural or in urban areas.  This sector includes two subsectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Employment, i.e., income from receiving remuneration or wages in exchange for work carried out.</li> <li>- Income-generation activities (IGA), i.e., those formal or informal activities that generate income through self-employment in the secondary (processing) and tertiary (services) sectors.</li> </ul> These activities can be conducted individually or in groups (associations, cooperatives).  With regard to collective activities, they may include either productive associations (or community groups) or savings associations.

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Sector / Subsector	Description
Education, training and capacity building	Group of indicators relating to activities to improve and apply production knowledge, and/or to build capacity that allows entering the labour market.
Access to markets and services	<p>Group of indicators relating to actions to improve or restart access to support services for livelihood activities (at all levels). It includes formal or informal access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Markets</li> <li>- Financial services</li> <li>- Legal services</li> <li>- Training (related to livelihoods)</li> <li>- Technical production services (extension agents, veterinarians, etc.)</li> </ul>
Livelihood structures and processes	<p>Group of indicators relating to structures and processes which define (and facilitate) the development of livelihood activities. Actions carried out on government structures (local, regional or national), rules, regulations, etc.</p>
Protection of livelihoods and natural resources	Group of indicators relating to livelihood protection (i.e., linked to risk-reduction activities and practices associated to livelihood activities and assets); and preservation and protection of the natural capital.
<b>Food security</b> Access Availability Utilisation	<p>Food security is a situation in which every person has at any given time physical, social and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to meet his/her dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.</p> <p>This sector is divided into three subsectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access: This is the economic ability of the population to obtain (through purchase or production) enough food of sufficient variety to allow them to meet their basic nutritional needs.</li> <li>- Availability: This means that food physically exists in the geographical areas where households are located. It includes both food produced locally and food that is imported to the local markets, so that they sell it for a given period.</li> <li>- Utilisation: This means bodily use of nutrients in the food consumed.</li> </ul>
Nutrition	Nutrition is the intake of food in relation to the dietary needs of the body. Good nutrition (an adequate, well balanced diet combined with regular physical activity) is an essential element for health.
Quality standard	Group of indicators relating to the process of implementation of the project/programme, and to quality issues (in livelihood-related interventions) it should adhere to.

## ANNEX VI. KEY WORD DIMENSION

Key Word	Key Word	Key Word
access to credit	financial services	livelihoods restoration
access to markets	fishery and aquaculture	livelihoods strengthening
access to productive assets	food access	livelihood structures and processes
access to services	food availability	livelihoods protection threshold
advocacy	food distribution	livestock
agriculture	food security	market development
assets distribution	food sources	market information
associations/cooperatives	food utilisation	value chain
cash based programming	forestry	market prices
climate change adaptation/mitigation	gender equality	natural resources management
community/productive infrastructures	household savings	nutrition
coping strategies	human capital	physical capital
disaster risk reduction	IGA	policies/regulations
employment	improved inputs/assets	production good practices
equitable access	insurance	production losses
expenditure pattern	land tenure	production processing and conservation
financial capital	livelihoods diversification	productive assets protection
productivity	livelihood protection	livelihood support services
safety net	survival threshold	resilience
social capital	technology	revenues/benefits
source of income	training/skills	well-being
vocational training		

## ANNEX VI. SOURCES

List of source documents used in the analysis to obtain the two products presented in this document.

Organisation	Document
ACCENTURE	Skills to Succeed Metrics Guide FINAL (2).xlsx
ACDI-VOCA	Indicators of Value Chain Development Sustainability
ACF	Toolkit 3 - ACF Core and Thematic Indicator Framework
CARE	Measuring Livelihood Impacts: A Review of Livelihoods Indicators
COSA	Towards a Shared Approach for Smallholder Performance Measurement
CONCERN	Description behind CWW FIM Core Indicators
CONCERN	Livelihoods Indicators and Annex 2- FIM Indicator Definitions, revised 01-14
Core Humanitarian Standards	CHS Guidance Notes and Indicators
CR Española	INDICADORES PLAN DE EMPLEO
DFID	Characteristics of a Disaster-resilient Community
ECHO	KRI-food security
ECHO	KRI-nutrition
EuropeAid	Sector Indicator Guidance for Programming
FAO	CPF (Country Programming Framework) results matrix – common weaknesses and possible solutions
FAO and RBA	Targets and Indicators for the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, Rome-based Agencies
French RC	Indicateurs Résilience CRF
Global Food Security Cluster	Document gFSC meeting Nov 2014 (paper)
Global Food Security Cluster	Food Security Cluster Core Indicator Handbook v2 (July'15); and v3 (September'15)
Global Food Security Cluster	Food Security Cluster Core Indicators
Global Food Security Cluster	Revised draft indicators for gFSC
Humanitarian Response	Cluster Response Indicators
IFRC	Emergency Appeals, Program Definition, etc.
IFRC	EPOA sectoral indicators guide
IFRC	IFRC Indicators LH PoA GUIDANCE 17March11 SW
IFRC	Minimum Standard Commitments to Gender and Diversity Emergency Programming
IFRC	RCRC Contributions to Strengthening Community Resilience
OCHA	Humanitarian Indicators by cluster 2013
Oxfam GB	Indicators suggested by the Standardization Indicators working group
SPHERE	Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standard in Humanitarian Response
USAID	Standard Foreign Assistance Master Indicator List (MIL), Feed the Future PROGRAM
WG Contributions	Indicators defined by working group participants
World Vision International	CWBC Standard Monitoring Indicators_FY15
World Vision International	Mail with the resilience & Livelihoods Indicators used by WVI (Senegal Office) and the document "Compendium for CWB" with the description of these indicators