Special Session:

**Children and Hunger**

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Conflict, agricultural livelihoods and children’s food security and nutrition

**CRISIS - SHOCKS**
(Including conflicts & natural disasters)

- Loss of access to land, natural resources.
- Loss of incomes, assets and livestock; deteriorating animal health.
- Disrupted, damaged livelihoods, agriculture, food production and food systems and limited food resources.

**FOOD INSECURITY MALNUTRITION**

CHILDREN ARE OFTEN THE MOST AFFECTED
Horn of Africa: Linking livestock feed availability to malnutrition and children

*Figure*: Trends in acute malnutrition in Turkana subcounty, Kenya, linked to Predictive Livestock Early Warning Information System (PLEWS)
Support to children facing food insecurity and malnutrition

Response throughout the humanitarian response cycle

- **prevent,**
- **prepare,**
- **mitigate,**
- **enhance resilience**

**INTERVENTIONS:**
Relieve hunger, mitigate its consequences on children

- Relieving hunger paying special attention to children’s needs
  - Care givers have secured and regular access to food
  - Nutrition is adequate for pregnant women and children to prevent irreparable health consequences

- Tackling the negative consequences of hunger impacting children’s lives
  - No Education
  - Child Labour
  - Early marriage
  - Forced Labour/Trafficking
  - Child soldiers

**A dual response**
Targeted measures

1) FAO, WFP, UNICEF, Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Project - Syria: Shift from cash crops to cultivating a variety of commodities for nutritional & economic benefits.
   - Objective: improving nutrition status with focus on pregnant and lactating women and children under 5.

2) “CASH+/Social protection+”: Integrated approach aims at boosting the livelihoods and productive capacities of vulnerable households

- Unconditional cash transfer
- Technical training and extension services
- In-kind assistance
Policy and Institutional Environment

• FAO-EU Partnership on: FIRST and INFORM
  (i) Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation
  (ii) Information for Nutrition Food Security and Resilience for Decision Making programme

• Assessing severity of food security crises and predicting future risks issuing periodic reports, including in conflict and protracted crisis situation:
  - The Global Report of food crises
  - The Global Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) Report

• Committee on World Food Security: “The Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis”
Key messages

1. Saving livelihoods that save lives of children - saving humanity. Need targeted measures such as social protection systems that are predictable, regular, risk-informed and shock-responsive.

2. The world face a high number of crises, often of protracted nature. We must make a greater collective effort and partnerships to fight malnutrition and food insecurity as root causes and effects of these crises.

3. Humanitarian assistance should focus beyond just surviving: Resilience should be built in. Increasing investments in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and sustainable management of natural resources is key to build resilience.