

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION REGIONAL COORDINATION CENTRE FOR FOOD SECURITY (ECO-RCCFS)



ECO-RCCFS

Biannual Update, June 2017

ABOUT THE ECO-RCC

ECO-RCC has been established in Ankara in November 2012 with the purpose of enhanced cooperation, knowledge sharing and information exchange among ECO member states in the area of food security.

The Centre facilitates the development and implementation of the projects to support food security in close collaboration with national, regional and international organizations including FAO.

The Steering Committee which is composed of country representatives is the main decision body for the Centre.



ECO-RCC Second Steering Committee meeting in Ankara, Turkey in February 2017

“Food security is one of the major agenda items in the ECO region. ECO-RCC has a critical role in facilitating a regional approach to addressing the challenges of food security.”

LATEST UPDATE ON ECO-RCC ACTIVITIES

ECO-RCC Second Steering Committee meeting was held on 16-17 February 2017, Ankara, Turkey

The second Steering Committee (SC) of the Economic Cooperation Organization Regional Coordination Centre for Food Security (ECO-RCC) was held in Ankara, Turkey on 16 February 2017 at the invitation of the Government of Turkey. The meeting was participated by eight ECO member countries including Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey, and Turkmenistan. The meeting was also attended by the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as an observer country. Representatives from the ECO Secretariat and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia were present at the meeting. The meeting discussed both operational and policy issues which are critical in addressing common challenges of food security in the region.

The SC confirmed that food security is one of the major agenda items in the ECO region. A presentation on the overview of food security in the region delivered during the meeting highlighted both achievements and challenges for food security in the region. The SC was also informed about the status of implemented activities and work plan of ECO-RCC. The Working Principles document of the ECO-RCC has been adopted by the SC.

The SC discussed the critical role of the ECO-RCC in facilitating a regional approach for addressing the challenges of food security through coordination and collaboration among the ECO member countries. On the way forward to future activities, the ECO-RCC activity roadmap has been approved by the SC. The activities for the second quarter of 2017 include: i) the member countries should draft project concept notes by the end of April 2017; ii) ECO-RCC will seek for potential resources; iii) ECO-RCC will finalize the report on Overview of Food Security in the ECO region.

ECO-RCC Steering Committee members visited the National Food Reference Laboratory of Turkey and Taskiran Agricultural Enterprise

The SC members visited the National Food Reference Laboratory and Taskiran Agricultural Enterprise in Beypazarı district of Turkey. The National Food Reference Laboratory provides a high quality national food safety system in line with the relevant national and international standards. Taskiran Agricultural Enterprise has an integrated facility for packaging, cold storage and transportation of carrot produced in the region.

ECO-RCC actively participated in 'Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda' jointly organized by FAO and SESRIC

ECO-RCC actively participated in 'Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda' which was organized jointly by FAO and SESRIC in February 2017 in Ankara. The workshop discussed standard methodologies for monitoring the progress of food security in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including two global



Taskiran Agricultural Enterprise, Beypazarı, Turkey, February 2017



FAO-SESRIC Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Ankara, Turkey in February 2017



ECO Senior Officials Meeting and ECO 22nd Council of Ministers in Islamabad /Pakistan, February 2017



Updated ECO-RCC Website - <http://www.eco-rccfs.org>

indicators for monitoring SDG Target 2.1 - Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) and Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).

ECO-RCC attended to the ECO Senior Officials Meeting and 22nd Meeting of the ECO Council of Ministers held in Islamabad / PAKISTAN between 26 and 28 February 2017

The ECO Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) and the 22nd meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM) of the ECO were held in Islamabad, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 26-28 February 2017. The Meetings were attended by the delegations of all ECO member countries.

The delegations of the ECO Observers, including Turkish Cypriot State, Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and Energy Charter Conference, the Heads/Representatives of ECO Specialized Agencies, Regional Institutions, and affiliated bodies including the ECO-RCC and UNESCAP delegation also attended the Meeting. SOM followed by 22nd COM has made constructive contribution to the deliberations, focusing on important agendas; ECOTA, ECO scale of Assessments and Reforms, ECO Vision 2025 and Islamabad Declaration for 13 ECO Summit. A statement was also delivered by Ms. Ulviye Burcu SERIN on behalf of the ECO-RCC.

FOOD SECURITY ANALYSIS OF ECO COUNTRIES

The analysis aims to provide basic information about the food security situations in the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). The results are expected to contribute to the identification of key impediments to achieve food security and prioritization of activities to address them. The preliminary findings were presented by Mr. Keigo Obara, FAO Food Security Officer, during the Second SC meeting. The analysis will be completed by mid-2017.

ECO-RCC WEBSITE

A website has been established for the ECO-RCC to ensure access to key documents on the activities of ECO-RCC including meeting minutes, work plans, progress reports and activity bulletins. All presentation materials used for the Second Steering Committee Meeting are available on the website. The URL of the website is <http://www.eco-rccfs.org/>.

CALL FOR INTEREST

The SC Meeting agreed to send a call for interest to ECO member countries for small-scale projects to address food security. The proposals should be in line with national priorities and relevant policies and programmes such as nationalized SDGs and FAO's Country Programme Framework. The proposed activities will be reviewed by a technical committee to be established by the ECO-RCC based on a set of criteria.

FOOD SECURITY RELATED EVENTS IN THE REGION (FIRST HALF OF 2017)

Global Forum for Food and Agriculture / High-level panel	January	Berlin, Germany
Promoting socially inclusive rural development in Europe and Central Asia: Action for agenda 2030	January	Vilnius, Lithuania
Joint FAO-SESRIC Workshop 'Monitoring Food Security in the Context of the SDGs	February	Ankara, Turkey
Turkey-Africa First Agriculture Ministers Meeting And Agribusiness Forum	April	Antalya, Turkey
Social Protection for Food Security, Nutrition and Rural Development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia	April	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Black Sea Economic Cooperation the 2nd Meeting of the Agriculture Ministers	May	Istanbul, Turkey

