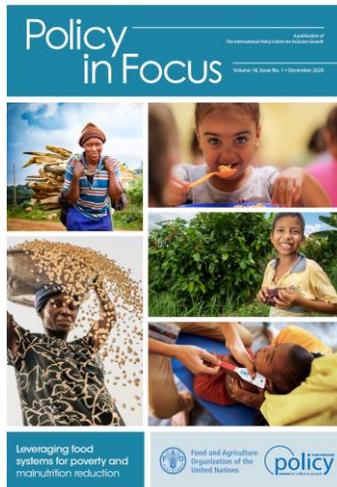




Research Contributions: Intensified Inter-sectoral Coherence for Successful Implementation of SDGs: Linking Social Protection Programs with Food Security and Nutrition Outcomes



21 Dec 2020: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) published recently a Special Issue entitled “Leveraging Food Systems for Poverty and Malnutrition Reduction”. The Issue is part of the *Policy in Focus* publication series produced by the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG/UNDP).

The Special Issue includes contributions from leading academics, researchers, research centers, and public and civil society from all over the world, who have shared their unique experiences and perspectives on nutrition, food systems, and poverty.

One of MAS’s reports is presented in this Issue. The report was commissioned in 2018 by the FAO to evaluate two Palestinian social protection programs’ contribution to improving Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) outcomes through the Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment (ISPA Tool). The tool is intended to help countries identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing social protection systems and guide improvements and reforms to meet set national social and economic development objectives that tackle SDGs 1 and 2 in a coherent approach. Assessment is based on seven criteria: A. Explicit FSN objectives and indicators; B. Inclusiveness and accessibility; C. Adequacy of benefits, duration, timing, and predictability; D. Responsiveness; E. Inter-sectoral coherence in operational and governance structures; F. Sustainability; and G. Rights and Dignity. The methodology uses three different scales to



classify the status of implementation of each criterion as latent, moderate, or advanced.

Mainly, MAS's report concludes that the contribution of Palestinian social protection programs to improving FSN outcomes needs strengthening, and this could be done by targeted interventions, especially by better factoring of FSN outcomes into the program design and planning phase. Additionally, inter-sectoral coherence in operational and governance structures needed strengthening and interventions should be aligned with FSN national strategies and policies.

Finally, it is worth noting that MAS conducted this study in close cooperation with members of the SDG1 (Poverty) and SDG2 (Hunger) national Working Groups, the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), with support from the FAO Country Office and the FAO-European Union FIRST program.

To read MAS's Contribution to the report click [here](#)

To download a copy of the full report (**English**)