



# unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

## Unitar Online Catalogue

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### Trade, Food Security and Nutrition (TFSN) for Near East and North Africa Region

Prosperity

Deadline: 21 Feb 2027

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Type:                    | Course                                                    |
| Location:                | Web-based                                                 |
| Date:                    | 14 Mar 2027 to 10 Apr 2027                                |
| Duration:                | 4 Weeks                                                   |
| Thematic Area:           | Public Finance, Trade and Economic Governance, , Other    |
| Website:                 | <a href="http://www.unitar.org">http://www.unitar.org</a> |
| Price:                   | \$0.00                                                    |
| Event Focal Point Email: | pft-elearning@unitar.org                                  |
| Partnership:             | FAO (613)                                                 |

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### BACKGROUND

***This online course will be delivered entirely in Arabic and jointly by UNITAR and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).***

The relationship between trade, food security and nutrition is of growing importance for countries in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region. Changing global food markets, reliance on food imports, climate-related pressures, supply-chain disruptions and evolving trade arrangements are creating both opportunities and challenges for achieving sustainable food security and improved nutrition.

Trade can contribute to food availability, affordability, market access and economic growth, but its impacts depend on the design and implementation of agricultural and trade policies. Policymakers therefore need to understand how trade measures and international trade rules interact with food security and nutrition objectives.

This joint UNITAR-FAO course aims to strengthen the capacity of NENA policymakers and practitioners to develop and implement evidence-based trade and agricultural policies that support food security, nutrition and sustainable agricultural development.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, participants will be better able to:

- Assess the challenges and opportunities associated with greater openness to trade for food security and nutrition;
- Explain the relationship between trade, agricultural development, food security and nutrition;
- Identify different trade policy measures and assess their potential contribution to food security;
- Understand key considerations for designing and implementing trade and agricultural policies;
- Discuss key global and regional policy and regulatory frameworks governing trade, food security and nutrition, including the WTO Agreement on Agriculture;
- Examine the role of trade in influencing food prices, food availability, dietary diversity and nutritional outcomes; and
- Identify opportunities to strengthen policy coherence between trade, agriculture, food security and nutrition objectives.

## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course consists of four units, combining conceptual foundations with practical examples and regional perspectives relevant to the NENA context.

### **Unit 1: Introduction to Trade, Food Security and Nutrition**

- Definitions and linkages between trade, food security and nutrition
- Impacts of trade on food security

### **Unit 2: Trade Policy Supportive of Food Security**

- Trade policy measures and agricultural development
- Design and implementation of trade policy measures

### **Unit 3: Governance of Trade, Food Security and Nutrition**

- Introduction to the multilateral trading system
- Policy space for food security within the multilateral trading system
- Improving governance and policy coherence

### **Unit 4: Trade and Nutrition: Policy Coherence for Healthy Diets**

- Linkages between trade and nutrition
- Trade in food and nutrients, food diversity, nutrient supply and food prices
- Strengthening policy coherence for trade and nutrition

The course will incorporate examples and experiences relevant to the NENA region wherever appropriate.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The course will be delivered online through the UNITAR e-learning platform over a period of approximately four weeks. Training materials developed by FAO will be combined with UNITAR's e-learning methodology.

Participants will follow a structured, self-paced learning programme supported by required and optional readings, interactive learning materials, case studies, discussion forums and assessment quizzes. The course will also include expert webinars and opportunities for interaction with experienced practitioners, enabling participants to connect the course content with real-world trade, agricultural and food security policy challenges.

The course is designed to promote practical application and peer learning, rather than focusing solely on theoretical concepts.

## TARGETED AUDIENCE

***Priority countries are Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.***

The course is primarily intended for government officials and policymakers from NENA countries who are directly or indirectly involved in the formulation, implementation or analysis of agricultural, trade, food security and nutrition policies and programmes.

This may include representatives from:

- Ministries of Agriculture and related agricultural authorities;
- Ministries of Trade, Commerce and Industry;
- Ministries of Economy and Finance;
- Food security and nutrition authorities;
- Customs, food safety, sanitary and phytosanitary authorities;
- Agricultural and trade policy institutions;
- Regional and intergovernmental organizations; and
- Other public institutions working on agricultural trade and food security.

The course will also be relevant to representatives of producer organizations, agro-industry, private-sector and traders' associations, research institutions and academia with an interest in agricultural trade, food security and nutrition.

Priority may be given to professionals whose responsibilities involve policy formulation, implementation, analysis, negotiation, technical advice or capacity development.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This joint UNITAR-FAO online course will be delivered entirely in Arabic and is intended for participants from countries in the Near East and North Africa region. The course will be offered free of charge, subject to available places and a

selection process.

Selection will seek to ensure appropriate geographical and gender balance, while giving priority to applicants whose professional responsibilities are closely aligned with the course objectives.

Participants will be expected to commit sufficient time to complete the learning activities, readings, discussions and assessments during the course period. A certificate of completion will be issued to participants who successfully complete the required course activities and assessments.

The course builds on the joint experience of FAO and UNITAR in strengthening capacities in trade, food security and agricultural policy across different regions. The NENA edition builds further on previous Arabic-language deliveries of the programme to government officials in the region.