

S.4 The development and adoption of regional legislations to ensure strategic stocks of basic commodities (food or non-food) to avoid shortages during any crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic

1. What, in brief, is the solution?

Developing and adopting legislation to guarantee a basic stock of commodities to achieve economic stability, stabilize prices in the markets, and provide the necessary needs for citizen consumption, and prevent monopolism.

2. What was/were the source(s) from which this solution emerged?

Reports and data that illustrate the implications of the crises, as well as the importance of the commodities' availability and the consideration of the citizens' needs, to manage crises and achieve food security.

3. What problem is it trying to address within food systems?

Spotting the needs of citizens and addressing them along with preparing for crises by developing and adopting specific legislation to guarantee strategic supplies of commodities, whether food or non-food, to achieve food security.

4. Why is addressing that problem important for achieving the goal of your working group?

To attain the availability and continuity of commodities to achieve strategic food stocks, passing new legislation ensures such availability and continuity.

5. How can this solution address that problem 'theory of change'?

Through the cooperation between the country's ministries and institutions in holding relevant meetings and studies, along with the exchange of experiences with other countries in the region, to reach the primary goal of developing and adopting new legislation to ensure strategic stocks of basic commodities (food or non-food).

6. Why does this solution align to the definition and criteria for a 'game-changing solution' developed by the Summit?

To reach means of security and stability, which is the ultimate goal, and also ensures the sustainability of commodities, particularly during crises.

7. What is the existing evidence supporting the argument that this solution will work, or at least that it will achieve the initial outcomes described above?

The best evidence is the proposals submitted by some of the Bahraini Shura Council members, which are related to the strategic stocks of commodities that aim to achieve economic stability by providing basic goods, stabilizing prices in the markets, and providing the necessary needs for citizen and to prevent monopolism.

8. What is the current and/or likely political support for this idea?

There is great political support for this idea, and it's illustrated by the implementation of the Royal instructions and supporting the government's efforts to achieve food security in the Kingdom.

9. Are there certain contexts for which this solution is particularly well suited, or, conversely, contexts for which it is not well-suited at all?

The solution is very suitable for all countries, as it guarantees the sustainability of both food and non-food commodities, especially during crises.