

Regional Leadership in Codex From Strategy to Action

CCNE Regional Work Plan 2026–2027
Perspectives for cooperation with
CCAFRICA

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CCNE WORKPLAN 2026-2027 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODEX STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031

Strategic Objectives	Regional Goals	Outputs	Main Activities	Implementation Indicators	Responsible for Monitoring	Implementation Timeline
Strategic Goal 1	1 - Reflecting Near East priorities in Codex texts through science-based contributions (Codex Goal 1)	1.1 - Approved mechanism for priority setting	Conduct annual regional surveys to identify national and shared priorities, guided by regional standards and relevant references	List of national and regional priorities	Regional Coordinator, Codex Contact Points	Before June 2026
			Identify priority list for 2026–2027	Number of regional priorities identified for the next two years Number of related activities	Member countries via contact points	Between March–December 2026
		1.2 - Regular and effective data exchange/collection on food safety issues	Encourage countries to collect data through capacity-building programs and workshops	Participant lists and reports Number of responsive countries	Regional Coordinator	Before end of 2027
				Number of established expert networks	Regional Coordinator	January–June 2027

The CCNE Regional Work Plan

A shared framework

CCNE12 adopted the 2026–2027 plan, aligned with the Codex Strategic Plan.

Sustained participation

The plan supports structured, science-based contributions by Near East countries.

Regional implementation

Expert groups and coordination meetings help countries prepare technical inputs.

Operational support

AIDSMO and GForSS support implementation through the Arab Codex Initiative.

Follow-up of implementation

EWG chaired by Lebanon and co-chaired by Libya to monitor progress against the regional workplan, prioritize activities and make refinements.



Strategic Alignment

**Codex Strategic Plan
2026–2031**

Regional contributions to Codex goals

Goal 1: Science-based standards

Reflect regional needs through scientific data and evidence-based contributions.

Goal 2: Effective work and participation

Strengthen prioritization, coordination and sustained participation throughout Codex work.

Goal 3: International partnerships

Connect regional expertise with relevant organizations and technical networks.

Goal 4: Visibility and use of standards

Support national uptake of Codex texts and stronger food control systems.

Strategic Goal 1: Science-Based Regional Contributions

01

Identifying regional priorities through a structured framework.

02

Supporting data generation and sharing, relevant to Codex work.

03

Supporting countries' capacity to prepare proposals and technical inputs.

04

Promoting evidence-based contributions reflecting regional needs and realities.

Priority Setting

A systematic approach

Criteria for regional prioritization

Public health and food safety

Assess the relevance of each committee and agenda item to regional health priorities.

Regional impact and trade

Consider implications for countries, commodities and regional food trade.

Feasibility and capacity needs

Assess available expertise and where countries need additional technical support.

Quantitative assessment

Use a common scoring method to guide the selection of priority committees and agenda items.

Strategic Goal 2

Participation and Coordination



Regional coordination meetings before priority Codex sessions.

Regional Expert Working Groups support technical reviews.

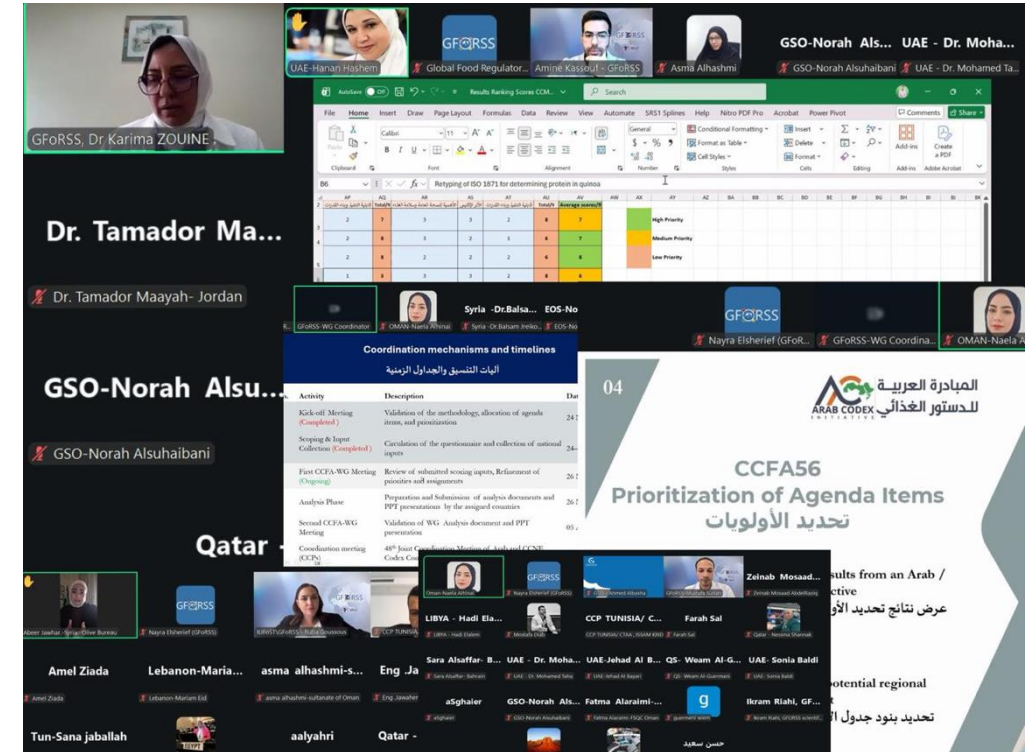
E-learning and training strengthen national Codex capacity.

Inclusive engagement of regulators, academia and industry.

Digital tools support continuity and knowledge sharing.

First 2026 Coordination Cycle

CCFO	Olive oil standards and data collection
CCMAS	Methods of analysis, allergens and regional standards
CCRVDF	Veterinary drug residues and camelids
CCFA	Food additives review and endorsement
CCFL	Precautionary allergen labelling and country of harvest
CAC49 / CCEXEC90	Preparation of coordinated regional inputs



7 coordination meetings
Approximately 50 participants / meeting
17 Arab/CCNE countries engaged

Second 2026 Coordination Cycle

September–December
Ongoing

Current priorities for technical preparation

CCFICS

Food import and export inspection and certification systems.

CCCF

Food contaminants and the scientific basis for regional inputs.

CCNFSDU

Nutrition and foods for special dietary uses.

CCFH

Food hygiene and guidance relevant to national food control systems.

Expert reviews and regional coordination meetings

Codex Impact

Strategic Goal 4

Visibility and use of Codex texts

National alignment

Promote greater alignment of national standards and regulations with Codex texts.

Implementation support

Use workshops and surveys to understand needs and support national implementation.

One Health approaches

Encourage the use of Codex texts within integrated approaches to food safety.

Regional collaboration

Work with regional organizations and stakeholders to strengthen Codex uptake.

Stakeholder Engagement and Regional Partnerships



Strengthening engagement with food industry, academia, and civil society.



Cooperation with GSO, AIDSMO and FAO/WHO regional offices.



Joint FAO/WHO regional trainings for CCAFRICA and CCNE.



Supporting structured dialogue between governments and stakeholders.

Upcoming 5th Arab Codex and Regulatory forum support by stakeholders from the region.



Enhancing transparency, technical exchange, and regional ownership.

Looking Ahead

CCNE perspectives

Priorities for the 2026–2027 period

Continuity between Codex sessions

Maintain expert working groups and follow-up on committee decisions.

Stronger scientific contributions

Support data generation and country proposals that reflect regional needs.

National implementation

Encourage the use of Codex texts in regulations and food control systems.

Greater regional leadership

Help countries shape Codex work and share experience with other regions.

CCNE experience offers a basis for wider cooperation

CCAFRICA and CCNE

Perspectives for
inter-regional cooperation

Shared opportunities in Codex

Shared priorities

Compare regional priorities and select Codex topics of common interest.

Expertise and scientific data

Connect experts and laboratories to support technical reviews and evidence generation.

Coordination experience

Exchange lessons between regions, including experience from the Arab Codex Initiative.

National capacity and leadership

Help countries develop technical inputs, propose solutions and lead Codex work.

Shared expertise for stronger Codex contributions

