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# Importance of Agriculture in Post-conflict Syria

The National Agenda for the Future of Syria (NAFS)  
18 June 2019



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# NAFS at a Glance

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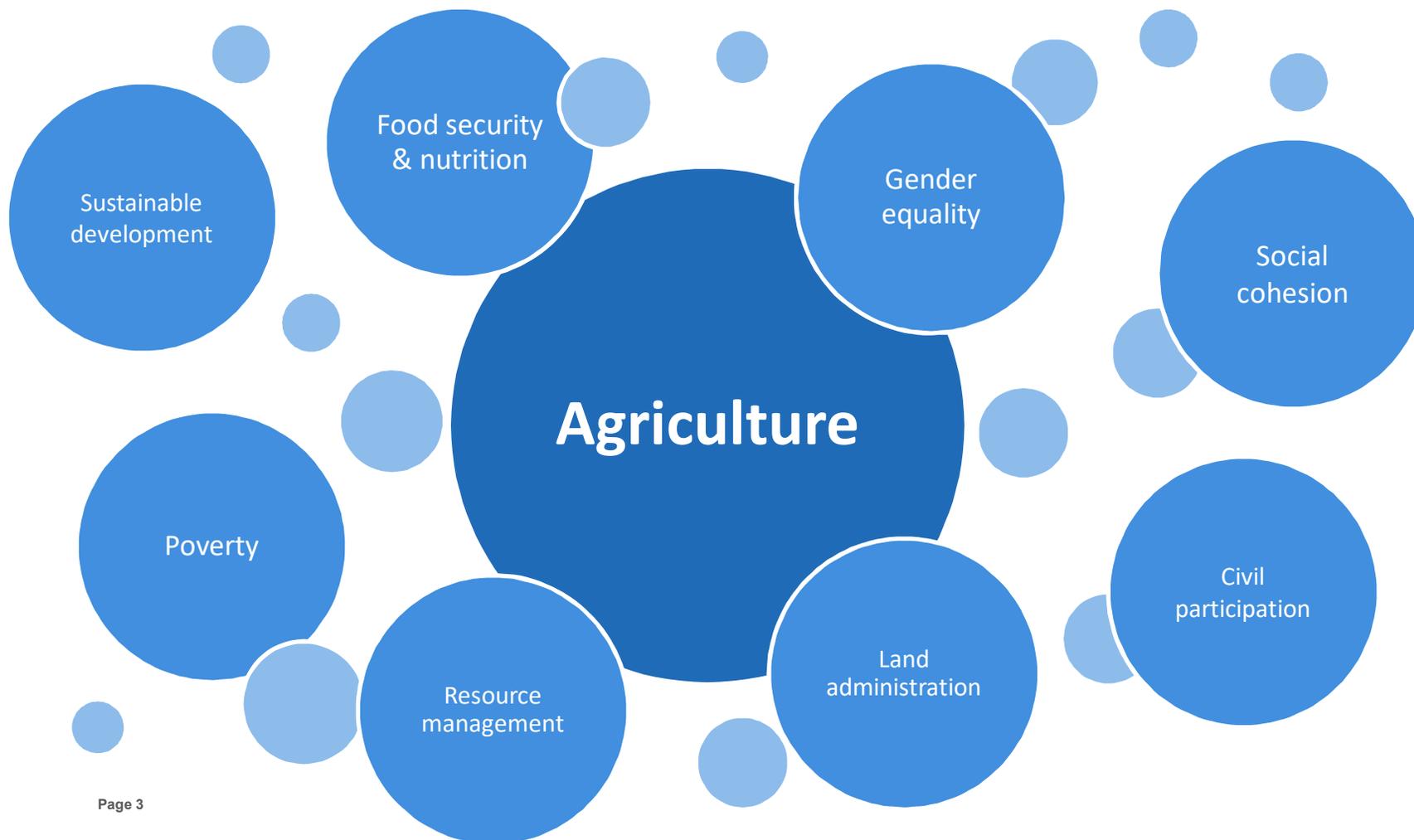


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# The Role of Agriculture in Post-conflict Syria



## Agriculture in Syria

### Pre-conflict

- Major source of livelihood for rural population
- Relatively food secure
- Considered as leading exporter in the region
- Centralized management

### Current situation

- Interruption of manufacturing and food industries
- Decreased exports due to closure of borders
- Impact of sanctions
- Rise in cost

### Syrian Conflict

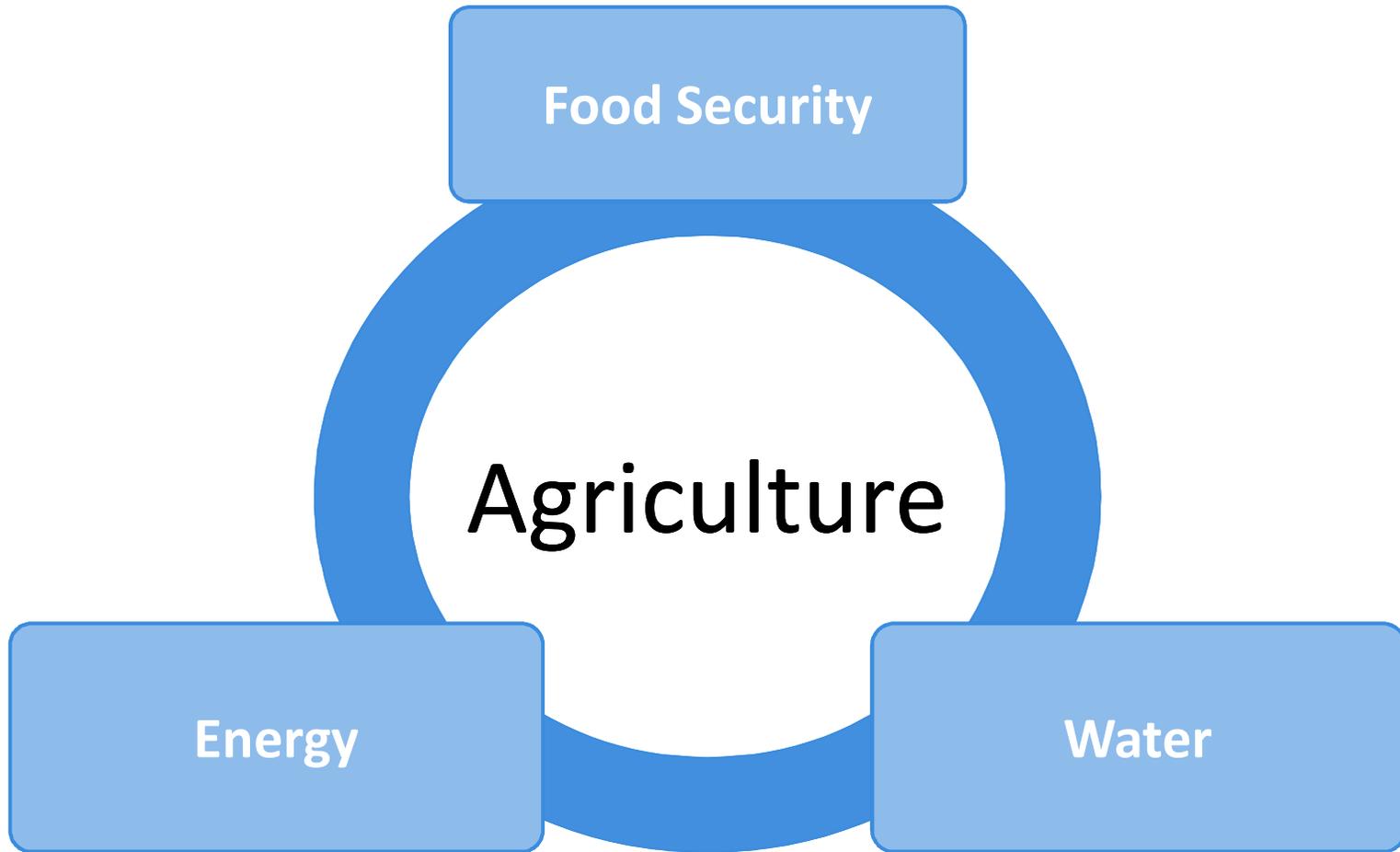
### Root causes: Contraction of agriculture sector

- Drought
- Liberalization of fuel prices
- Water mismanagement



# Water, Energy and Food Security Approach

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## NAFS Nexus

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**Nexus 1: Emergency response, relief and humanitarian work**

**المحور الأول: سياسات مرحلة الطوارئ والإغاثة والعمل الإنساني وسياسات الاستجابة المحلية.**

**Nexus 2: Building a legal framework and institutional rehabilitation**

**المحور الثاني: سياسات بناء الشرعية وإعادة التأهيل المؤسسي.**

**Nexus 3: Reconciliation and social cohesion**

**المحور الثالث: سياسات المصالحة والتماسك الاجتماعي.**

**Nexus 4: Rehabilitation of physical and social infrastructure**

**المحور الرابع: سياسات إعادة تأهيل البنية التحتية المادية والاجتماعية.**

## Nexus 1-A Voluntary Return and Reintegration

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### Impact of the conflict

- Various factors still obstructing return
- Large proportion of migration from rural agricultural areas

**Role of agriculture:** Agriculture is the only sector that can be resumed immediately in areas with accessible land and water supply once the displaced population returns

- Prepare conditions of return (food security, employment, livelihood, land rights, ...)
- Create grounds for reconciliation

## Nexus 1-B Local Response

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### **Impact of the conflict**

- Increased poverty and hunger

### **Role of agriculture**

- Provide income and stability to rural population
- Ensure food security and nutrition

## Nexus 2 Building Legitimacy and Political Reform

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### **Impact of the conflict**

- Deteriorated state administration and governance
- Breakdown of the social contract
- Declined rule of law and prevailing war economy

### **Role of agriculture**

- Restore the rule of law through settling agriculture related disputes under official structures
- Restructure central government and local administrations
- Drive out war economy

## Nexus 3 Reconciliation and Social Cohesion

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### **Impact of the conflict**

- Conflict over resources triggered violence in rural areas
- Breakdown of the social contract
- Increased regional disparities
- Decreased sense of national belonging

### **Role of agriculture**

- Facilitate partnership among the population and promote social solidarity
- Strengthen the role of civil society organizations
- Settle disputes related to resources through needed legislations and policies
- Enhanced equity in agriculture creating grounds for reconciliation

## Nexus 4

# Rehabilitation of the Physical and Social Infrastructure

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### **Impact of the conflict**

- Damaged physical infrastructures
- Increased poverty and hunger

### **Role of agriculture**

- Address poverty
- Eliminate hunger, improve nutrition, and achieve food security
- Contribute to sustainable and comprehensive economic growth
- Provide employment and decent work for all



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Thank you  
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