



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

ENABLE INCLUSIVE AND EFFICIENT AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SYSTEMS



The operation of agricultural and food systems is key to the transition from subsistence to commercially-oriented food production, which will underpin rural poverty reduction and eradication of hunger. Sustainable food systems can also address the burgeoning challenges of malnutrition and obesity, working to deliver diets that promote and sustain optimal health for the world's growing population.

The ability to process food and add value, increasing the supply of affordable, safe and nutritious food, while reducing losses and waste, depends on new energy efficient technologies, on the emerging private sector, on investment and trade.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Improving agrifood trade and market integration in Europe and Central Asia

At the regional level, SP4 concentrates on improving agrifood trade and market integration in Europe and Central Asia through its Regional Initiative. The main objective is to enhance the agrifood trade policy environment for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and to develop capacities that would support a better trade policy environment for countries in the region. Focus areas include: Implementation of trade agreements to increase access to new markets; Increased capacity to implement global food quality standards; and Supportive policy environment for export diversification.

In Armenia, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, FAO has helped to strengthen the capacities of national phytosanitary control services and partially address the

threat of pests. Three major results have been recorded: 1) use of modern technology has led to more efficient border inspection and control of pests; 2) the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), the governing body of the International Plant Protection Convention, agreed to develop a global system of electronic phytosanitary certificates, known as ePhyto. This new global electronic certification system helped curb the spread of plant pests and diseases through international trade that is more secure and cost-effective; 3) the phytosanitary control services of these countries are now collaborating regularly, sharing best practices.

Partnering with cities to achieve sustainable food systems

At the country level, SP4 introduced NADHALI (named after its pilot cities, Nairobi, Dhaka, and Lima) as the first project designed to support the New Urban Agenda signed in Quito in October 2016. The NADHALI objective is to support local

governments (cities) as they work to achieve sustainable food systems in their municipalities. Focus areas are driven by the municipalities. In Lima, Peru, the emphasis is on food waste management in urban markets and a full food system analysis is being rolled out. Nairobi, Kenya is focusing on strengthening the city's food systems strategy, improving urban-rural food linkages, and supporting food system planning. In Dhaka, Bangladesh, initial focus is on data collection for a comprehensive food system analysis. The NADHALI project has been the driver for attracting seed funds and creating synergies with other FAO initiatives. Discussions have been initiated with other cities interested in taking part in this project.

City food-waste controls in Bangladesh and Peru

FAO has been instrumental in improving the capacity of smallholders to carry out efficient post-harvest handling practices in the tomato supply chains of Bangladesh. Its efforts have resulted in a 98 percent reduction in losses during transportation, increased producer income, better-quality tomatoes in markets and fewer single-use plastics. In the municipality of Lima, Peru, FAO has helped to create a Food Liaison Advisory Group, which has formed a city food-waste taskforce and established a composting centre and other models for managing biomass waste from markets run by the municipality. The amount of organic waste disposed of in landfill and city drainage has been cut. There is potential to scale up such schemes

SPECIAL CHALLENGES FOR SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

OBESITY

Caribbean countries average



33% obesity in their populations

At least twice the number of obese women as men



75% of all adult deaths in the Pacific are due to non-communicable diseases

25% of AIMS countries have rates of female obesity at around **40%**



IMPORTS

Top **5** food imports

- processed foods
- wheat
- corn
- meat
- dairy



All Caribbean and Pacific SIDS import over **60%** of food

50% of islands import over **80%**

FOOD IMPORTS TODAY



> 5 billion USD year

+50% SINCE 2000

Will increase to 8-10 billion USD by 2020 if nothing changes

Source: ©FAO 2017, Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States.

that contribute to urban hygiene and a sustainable environment and foster the creation of green employment opportunities.

Supporting Small Island Developing States (SIDS) around the globe

The Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States (GAP), is a UN System-wide programme launched in July 2017, developed and led by FAO, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (OHRSS).

This programme supports governments and fosters coherent, coordinated global and regional support for food security, nutrition and sustainable development in SIDS. In particular, the programme (1) ensures that SIDS Global Action Plan (GAP) implementation supports existing food security and

nutrition strategies, (2) strengthens coordination of development work with SIDS governments, (3) fosters effective knowledge sharing and interregional activities and (4) ensures sufficient capacity and investment for implementation.

Coordinated by SP4, the GAP activities in the Caribbean include the promotion of school feeding programmes as drivers of nutrition education and stimulating local farmers' market access. Lessons learned from study tours to Brazil have led to the piloting of approaches in Grenada. Best practices in climate-smart agriculture and

urban agriculture have also been shared between the Dominican Republic and Haiti and supported their respective governments in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the Pacific, research into food pricing policies has focused on nutrition taxes with a view to curbing obesity rates. In the Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS, FAO has helped to bolster national coordination platforms and interregional technical networks to address food security and nutrition challenges, to improve the evidence base for policy interventions, and to update dietary guidelines on trade and nutrition.

CHALLENGES

- Although the case for taking an agricultural and food systems approach to achieve the majority of the SDGs is strong, many countries face critical constraints, particularly weaknesses in coordination between government ministries contributing to challenges in balancing the trade-offs between improving system efficiency and ensuring inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Working for #ZeroHunger

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More information

www.fao.org/about/what-we-do/en/