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Food and Agriculture  
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Продовольственная и  
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Organización de las  
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منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## Thirty-fourth Session

Nadi, Fiji, 9–13 April 2018

## Results and Priorities for FAO Activities in the Region

### Executive Summary

FAO's Strategic Framework, reviewed in 2016-17, provides direction for FAO's technical work and its Strategic Programmes (SPs) to effectively address the priorities and ensure effective delivery of results at country level. The Reviewed Strategic Framework of FAO and its Medium Term Plan 2018-21 and Programme of Work and Budget 2018-19 were approved by the FAO Conference at its 40th Session in July 2017. The Conference appreciated the close alignment of FAO's Strategic Objectives (SOs) with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As supported by the Regional Conference at its 33rd Session, during 2016-17 FAO in the Asia and the Pacific region focused its work on four regional initiatives (RIs): the Regional Initiative on the Zero Hunger Challenge; the Regional Rice Initiative; the Regional Initiative on Blue Growth; and the Regional Initiative on Developing Local Value Chains for Food Security and Nutrition in the Pacific Island Countries. Other programmes and priority areas of work included Food Safety and "One Health"; Making Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries More Productive and Sustainable in the Context of Climate Change; SDGs, Monitoring Agricultural Statistics; Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment; and Migration.

The SPs have been instrumental in enabling FAO to respond to the challenges and address the priorities in the Asia-Pacific region in a coherent, consistent and coordinated manner to achieve significant results at country level. They have enhanced the relevance and coherence of the global

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commitments to regional priorities and facilitated an integrated approach in terms of delivery at country level.

### **Matters to be brought to the attention of the Regional Conference**

The Regional Conference may wish to:

- Recognize the importance of the Strategic Framework and Strategic Programmes in providing strategic direction for FAO's technical work to address priorities and enhancing effective delivery of results at country level;
- Recognize the work completed and the results achieved by FAO through the SPs in 2016-17, especially under the RIs in responding to the main priorities identified at the 33rd Session of the Regional Conference;
- Take note of the natural alignment of FAO's SOs with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs;
- Note the key role of the SPs in integrating the Organization's technical work at regional and country levels to address multifaceted development challenges and provide efficient and adequate support to countries on the SDGs;
- Support the important contribution of the SPs to FAO's normative products and services, such as standards setting, voluntary guidelines and legal instruments, at country, regional and global levels;
- Provide guidance on regional priority for FAO's work in 2018-19 and beyond based on major trends and challenges in the region, including climate change, and lessons learned from the experience with the RIs and major programmes in 2016-17.

## **I. Introduction**

1. FAO's Reviewed Strategic Framework<sup>1</sup>, its Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018-21 and Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) 2018-19<sup>2</sup> were approved by the FAO Conference at its 40th Session in July 2017. The Conference appreciated the close alignment of FAO's SOs with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. The Reviewed Strategic Framework was developed through a consultative strategic thinking process during 2016. This process involved: identifying the global trends expected to frame agricultural development over the medium term,<sup>3</sup> and sectoral and regional trends arising from regional strategic reviews and deliberations of the FAO Regional Conferences<sup>4</sup> and Technical Committees;<sup>5</sup> determining the main challenges expected to be faced by countries and development actors in food and agriculture in the coming years; analysing the main global developments that set the overall context in which FAO operates; and understanding the implications of these challenges and developments for achieving FAO's SOs. The review also took into account the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SDGs and entry into force of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, which will provide the broad context in which FAO will operate and adapt in order to enhance the delivery and impact of the Organization's work.

3. The Reviewed Strategic Framework provided the basis for fine-tuning the conceptual framework and theory of change of FAO's five SOs within the context of the Organization's vision,

<sup>1</sup> C 2017/7 ([www.fao.org/pwb](http://www.fao.org/pwb))

<sup>2</sup> C 2017/3 ([www.fao.org/pwb](http://www.fao.org/pwb))

<sup>3</sup> FAO 2016. The future of food and agriculture – Trends and challenges. Rome.

<sup>4</sup> C 2017/14, C 2017/15, C 2017/16, C 2017/17, C 2017/18, C 2017/LIM/1

<sup>5</sup> C 2017/21, C 2017/22, C 2017/23, C 2017/24

attributes and core functions. The MTP 2018-21 and PWB 2018-19 set out the programmatic framework and resources for planning, implementing and monitoring results through indicators and targets, including the contribution of FAO's work towards 40 SDG targets. Figure 1 provides an overview of FAO's SPs, including their alignment with the SDGs. Web Annex 1 provides an overview of FAO's SPs including alignment with the SDGs.

4. The FAO Regional Initiatives (RIs) serve as a mechanism to ensure effective delivery at country level and a greater impact of FAO's work on the key priorities of each region.. As supported by the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC), FAO actions on priorities of the region are framed around the four RIs in 2016-17: Asia and the Pacific's Zero Hunger Challenge (RI-ZHC); the Regional Rice Initiative (RRI); Sustainable Intensification of Aquaculture for Blue Growth (RI-BG); and Developing Local Value Chains for Food Security and Nutrition in Pacific Island Countries (RI-VC).

5. Three of the current regional initiatives will continue: Zero Hunger Challenge; Blue Growth; and Value Chains in the Pacific. The latter will be reorganized and incorporated as a component within the Interregional Initiative on Small Island Developing States. Two new Regional Initiatives will be formulated: Climate Change, which will incorporate the work of the current Regional Rice Initiative; and One Health, which will address complex and cross-cutting issues in food systems in the region, including antimicrobial resistance, emerging infectious diseases and food safety.

6. In this context, the Regional Conference provides an opportunity for Members to advise on the results of and priorities for FAO's work in the region through FAO's SPs. The document is divided into two main sections:

- Section II describes how the SPs during 2016-17 helped countries achieve results in the context of agreed priorities for FAO's work in the region.
- Section III gives an overview of trends and developments in the region going forward, the regional priorities for FAO's work and how they can be addressed by the SPs through the RIs, including a regional view of SP output targets for 2018-19.

## **II. Achievements in the region**

7. The SPs are a method for organizing work across technical units and decentralized offices within FAO to effectively deliver the SOs. There are five SPs.

- SP1: Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
- SP2: Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable
- SP3: Reduce rural poverty
- SP4: Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems
- SP5: Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

8. The SPs have facilitated interdisciplinary work, improved the integration between the work programmes of headquarters and the field, and improved the overall delivery of the Organization at country level. Achievements in each of the RIs (with reference to the relevant SPs) are outlined in the paragraphs that follow.

## **A. Achievements in the Regional Initiatives**

### *Regional Initiative on Zero Hunger Challenge*

9. At the country level, RI-ZHC has further strengthened and expanded the national political commitment to achieve zero hunger (SP1). While all countries in the region have committed to SDG2, several countries including Cambodia, Fiji, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam have officially declared their determination to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by launching the National Zero Hunger Challenge, the National ZHC Strategy, and the National Action Plan on Food Security and Nutrition. RI-ZHC also provided support to the formulation of the National Agriculture Development Strategy and the National Mechanization Strategy for Timor-Leste, and paved the way for the agriculture research and development strategy for zero hunger for Afghanistan.

10. The Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability, and Transformation programme, in partnership with the European Union, was launched in ten countries in the region to provide direct and customized policy assistance support to governments for improving food security and nutrition situation. The programme's contributions have already been highly commended and appreciated by national counterparts. In Fiji, an Agriculture Strategic Plan was developed and support was initiated to explore the adoption of pricing policies to facilitate reduced consumption of food and beverages contributing most to poor nutrition outcomes.

11. At the regional/subregional level, RI-ZHC launched the Future Smart Food (FSF) Initiative to promote agricultural diversification and sustainable intensification to address hunger and malnutrition (SP2). More than 30 national and international partners have actively joined the FSF Initiative, which is being translated into concrete national government strategies and policies on food security and nutrition in Cambodia, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Nepal. RI-ZHC has also actively collaborated with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on a food security and nutrition strategy and its implementation through intersectoral collaboration and multistakeholder coordination.

12. RI-ZHC has spurred political commitment from countries and reinforced subregional/regional collaboration and partnership with the public and private sectors. In addition, FAO has provided capacity development for policy formulation and implementation of evidence-based decision-making.

### *Regional Rice Initiative*

13. The RRI successfully demonstrated that Sustainable Intensification of Rice Systems (SIRP) not only provides multiple benefits, including increased production and higher profits for farmers, but also has climate benefits through practices such as alternate wetting and drying and integrated rice-fish production systems. SIRP case studies in Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Philippines, carried out by FAO in close collaboration with national extension and research authorities, show that after Farmer Field School training, the adoption of Save and Grow practices by participating farmers produces cost-saving benefits by reducing seed inputs, increasing rice yields, and consequently raising profits for farmers.

14. Installing and upgrading agricultural mechanization is an important goal. In some countries, the cost of manual farm labour has increased dramatically, particularly during planting and harvesting. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, FAO demonstrated a 20 percent reduction in labour inputs as compared to manual transplanting and time per hectare, an approximate 20 percent reduction in production costs, and a more than 70 percent decrease in the use of seeds when a drum seeder is used for direct seeding instead of manual transplanting (SP2). The Government has a target of halving labour on rice farms by 2020. Mechanization will be necessary to achieve that goal.

15. Post-harvest rice loss at producer and village levels was reduced by up to 60 percent in Myanmar after FAO training sessions on paddy techniques to improve harvesting, drying and storage (SP4 and SP3). From this work, drying and storage were identified as key action areas for future work and investment by both governments and the private sector. A total of 4 000 farmers were trained in reducing rice losses in Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. A new regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) project was recently financed to document lessons learned and facilitate scaling-up of successes. Future work on rice will be incorporated in other RIs, in particular the Climate Change and Blue Growth Initiatives.

### *Regional Initiative on Blue Growth*

16. RI-BG has supported member countries to improve fisheries management and protect aquatic ecosystems. Technical support was provided on the implementation of National Plans of Action—Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, and the accession to international agreements (such as the Port State Measures Agreement and United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement) through legal and policy advice and capacity-building. FAO supported countries in capacity development for the promotion of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries. With Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects, FAO helped strengthen regional cooperation on large marine ecosystem management on the Bay of Bengal and Indonesian Seas.

17. RI-BG also supported the identification of innovative agro-aquaculture farming practices in member countries for improved production efficiency and sustainability of the aquaculture sector through regional workshops and consultations on different thematic areas. Jointly with national agencies, FAO demonstrated innovative rice-fish and rice-shrimp farming in Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam. FAO developed regional technical guidelines for good rice-fish farming practices and disseminated them among five countries. Four aquaculture planning and management tools were piloted in Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam.

18. RI-BG has supported a number of countries in strengthening inclusive and gender-sensitive fisheries and aquaculture value chains. Member countries have been supported to implement the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries through ground-level work with community-based fisheries development in Cambodia, as well as by organizing a joint FAO-SEAFDEC “Experts Workshop on a Regional Approach for the Implementation of FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries: Human Rights-Based Approach and Gender Equitability” in 2017 (SP2 and SP3). Five countries were supported to enhance aquaculture feed and seed production through country TCP projects that aimed to improve the access of small farmers to quality production inputs. Two countries were supported to conduct aquaculture value chain studies and develop strategies and actions for establishing inclusive aquaculture value chains. These initiatives demonstrate FAO’s commitment to achieving inclusive food production systems (SP4).

19. Under RI-BG, member countries have been supported to build the resilience of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors (SP2 and SP5). Implementation of National Plans of Action has been supported through the development or implementation of GEF/the Least Developed Countries Fund projects in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Timor-Leste. Climate-resilient aquaculture farming practices have been developed and piloted in three countries with the technical guideline developed with FAO’s support. Integrated approaches that incorporate climate change and disaster risk management were adopted when developing GEF projects (SP5).

*Regional Initiative on Developing Local Value Chains for Food Security and Nutrition in the Pacific Island Countries*

20. The three focus countries for RI-VC were Cook Islands, Fiji and Samoa. In order to support national and regional evidence-based policy development and data systems and to enhance capacity in the collection and analysis of agricultural statistics, a new ten-year Pacific Strategic Plan for Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics, endorsed by governments, was developed by FAO in collaboration with the Pacific Community (SPC). To improve the regional enabling environment, an in-depth aquaculture risk assessment and business investment planning study was carried out under the Micronesian Association of Sustainable Aquaculture. Support was provided to strengthen Pacific Islands' capacities related to *Codex Alimentarius*, food safety and sustainable aquaculture, with the draft *Imported Food Control Guidelines for Pacific Island Countries* presented during the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the FAO/World Health Organization (WHO) Coordinating Committee for North America and South West Pacific.

21. In the Cook Islands, technical assistance was provided to monitor the impact of the newly introduced tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, and to improve the capacity of domestic farmers and agro-processors to supply the domestic markets. A food technology processing manual was prepared and disseminated, and selected micro- and small enterprises in Rarotonga and outer islands received technical support on food processing, food safety and food technology, with 36 products developed. Selected vanilla growers in Mangaia were trained on production, post-harvest and processing. The drafting of a revised Ministry of Agriculture Act was supported.

22. In Fiji, a Roadmap for the Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics was developed and endorsed under the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics. Technical assistance was provided to develop an agriculture data methodology and conduct a market review of local rice production. A National Fisheries Policy was drafted to improve coherence across the sector. An E-Agriculture Strategy was also developed and submitted for the consideration of the Government, and a Crops Sector Strategy was developed to provide guidance on the priority actions and reforms to be achieved for the crops sector over the next five years.

23. In Samoa, a draft Biosecurity Act was completed which includes a Plant Protection Bill, a Quarantine (Biosecurity) Amendment Bill, a Food Safety and Quality Bill and an Animal Health Bill. A new Agriculture Sector Plan (2016-2020) was also launched. A report on *Dietary patterns of households in Samoa: Identifying the factors and food items most important to understanding nutrition in Samoa* and the *2015 Agricultural Survey Report* were completed and launched. To strengthen the capacity of small-scale farmers to market a consistent supply of safe, quality food, training workshops and one-on-one infield trainings on planning and implementing contract farming operations were conducted and selected fruit and vegetable producers were trained on post-harvest management and food safety. From work initiated under a TCP, the Government identified the need for a Statistics Unit to be established in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**B. Achievements in other programmes and priority areas**

*Food Safety and One Health*

24. A regional standard on phytosanitary measures for hot water treatment of mango fruit for fruit fly was developed to reduce risk of fruit fly infestation, contributing to better trade and increased biosecurity of various fruit crops (SP4). Import control protocols have been developed and capacity to deal with transboundary food safety risks has been strengthened in Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Forty indicators for food safety in the Asia-Pacific region have been long-listed through a regional consultation for further elaboration and validation at the national level. FAO country offices participated in a regional consultation on the One Health approach to address complex issues across

animal, plant, human and environmental health areas in a coordinated manner and to provide inputs on national priorities.

25. Under the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) and the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), emerging risks of infectious disease and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the region have been highlighted and local solutions supported. National AMR Action Plans have been developed as well as related policies, and laboratory and surveillance capacities. Risk reduction of pest outbreaks and pesticides harmful to human health, animal health and eco-health through Integrated Pest Management has been progressing rapidly in countries of the Greater Mekong sub-region (SP5).

### *Making Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries More Productive and Sustainable in the Context of Climate Change*

26. Considering the special role of the dairy sector in supporting rural livelihoods, empowerment of women and child nutrition, and the complexity of challenges faced by the region in ensuring that future dairy sector development is socially equitable and ecologically responsible, FAO has promoted a multistakeholder partnership “Dairy Asia” (SP2). The partnership has developed and endorsed the Dairy Asia Sustainability Framework, fully aligned to the SDGs, as a guiding framework for sustainable dairy sector development.

27. In the forestry sector, the Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Asia and Pacific was endorsed by the Asia and the Pacific Fishery Commission in 2017. FAO’s newly produced publications on forest change, forest tenure, agroforestry, and restoration served as a useful tool for knowledge-sharing across countries (SP1, SP2, and SP5).

28. Jointly with the Government of Malaysia, FAO organized a Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in September 2017. The meeting engaged a broad range of stakeholders in the dialogue on the role and application of agricultural biotechnologies to improve food security and nutrition and make food systems more sustainable in the region. In close collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union, FAO developed e-Agriculture strategy guides and knowledge-sharing products. These guides are coupled with technical support for sustaining ICTs for agriculture services in six countries in the region.

### *Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring and Agricultural Statistics*

29. The importance of data and statistics, particularly for monitoring the progress on SDGs, was re-emphasized during the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Asia and Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics and during the last APRC. FAO was called upon to develop global standards and build the capacity of national statistical systems to produce data for compiling the SDGs indicators. Events were organized in Asia and the Pacific to disseminate methodology for the SDG indicators, and FAO continues to prioritize technical assistance to countries to build their statistical capacity, particularly for monitoring SDG2 and SDG12 relating to Zero Hunger and Food Loss respectively.

30. The Regional Action Programme for Global Strategy, being implemented in 17 countries, finalized in-depth assessments of country capacities to produce agricultural statistics in 15 countries and the Pacific, as well as drafts of their Strategic Plans for Agricultural Statistics. Additionally, FAO is assisting five countries in planning and implementing their agricultural census.

### *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*

31. FAO's ongoing collaboration with UN agencies through the regional UN Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment contributed to publications such as the *Asia Pacific Gender Equality and SDGs Report*, and the UN study on *Women's Transformative Leadership in the 2030 Agenda in Asia Pacific*.

32. FAO's Regional Gender Strategy and Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific was endorsed and published in January 2017. As a result of the guidance provided by the Action Plan, all FAO country offices in the region have since formulated country gender action plans, largely focused on improving intervention effectiveness through gender mainstreaming and gender-sensitive planning, monitoring and evaluation. Country Gender Assessments have been completed in two countries and initiated in 12 more (all SPs). FAO focused additional support on the Pacific by providing training on Gender Integrated Planning to FAO offices in the Pacific Islands, leading to a multi-country gender assessment in five Pacific Island states in collaboration with the SPC. FAO continues to deliver capacity-building in the gender mainstreaming and monitoring and evaluation.

### *Migration*

33. The 2017 *State of Food and Agriculture*, which highlights migration and rural transformation and the need to invest in agriculture and rural development, clearly articulates the need to address the root causes of migration, including rural poverty, food insecurity and climate change, and magnify its positive outcomes of interventions on above-mentioned areas (SP3 and SP5). FAO is collaborating with other agencies, such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) on migration, e.g. through case studies on the nexus between access to natural resources and migration.

## **C. Partnerships**

34. FAO works in collaboration and partnership with subregional, regional and international entities, such as ASEAN, SAARC, SPC, the Asian Development Bank, and the World Bank. with specialized national research institutions such as the CGIAR Centres.

35. FAO also stepped up regional collaboration with the Rome-based agencies: the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP). Joint WFP-FAO missions and programming for the emergency situation in Bangladesh and Myanmar were completed. IFAD and FAO collaborated to enhance the capacity of the Pacific Inlands to plan and formulate informed and appropriate policies to promote sustainable rural development and food and nutritional security in the Pacific countries. A regular communication and coordination mechanism among the regional heads of the Rome-based agencies was set up. FAO and WFP agreed to align country-level activities through a more coordinated formulation of FAO's Country Programming Frameworks and WFP's Country Strategy. Successful regional examples of increasing inter-UN agency cooperation include the Asia Pacific Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition organized by FAO in collaboration with WHO, WFP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Bank, and the establishment of a Nutrition Working Group composed of FAO, WFP, WHO and UNICEF under the regional UN Country Team (UNCT) framework, which provides joint support to ASEAN, coordinated technical support to countries, and has committed to joint formulation of the Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition flagship report in 2018.

36. Overview and assessment of results in the region at the level of Outputs, Outcomes and SOs are provided in Web Annex 2 - Contribution of Results in the Asia and Pacific Region to FAO Strategic Objectives in the 2016-17 Biennium.

### **III. Priority areas of work for 2018-19 and beyond**

37. In order to achieve FAO's mandate as it relates to the SDGs, there is a need to place food security and nutrition, the reduction of rural poverty, and sustainable agriculture and food systems at the centre of the agenda. In this regard, in response to the member countries' request to FAO at the 33rd Session of APRC,<sup>6</sup> FAO plans to support member countries in achieving SDGs through five RIs in 2018-19: Zero Hunger, Blue Growth, Climate Change, One Health, and the IRI on SIDS for the Pacific – all of which were endorsed at the 40th Session of the FAO Conference in July 2017. FAO will continue to deliver the RIs and other regional priorities through strengthening partnership including South-South and triangular Cooperation to support countries in achieving the SDGs. The RIs and other regional priorities will be developed continuously, with programmatic and multidisciplinary approaches.

#### **A. Regional Initiative on Zero Hunger**

38. In 2018-19, the RI-ZH will focus on supporting the member countries in Asia and the Pacific to implement and operationalize their policies and programmes through strengthening the national institutional capacity and a stronger link to investment. It will aim to strengthen their capacity to manage agriculture and food systems that promote sustainable agriculture, increase diversified, integrated and nutritious food supply and consumption, and reduce food losses and waste – in an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger and malnutrition nationally and regionally. The RI-ZH will join forces across the organizational SOs to enhance the impact on rural poverty, food security and nutrition. In the biennium, FAO's outcomes in RI-ZH include:

- improved enabling environment for food security and nutrition governance in member countries;
- enhanced evidence-based research and policy advice on food security and nutrition in the region;
- strengthened sustainable and inclusive agriculture and food systems in member countries.

#### **B. Regional Initiative on Blue Growth**

39. In the 2018-19 biennium, FAO will continue to support member countries to implement RI-BG, focusing on delivering the following outcomes:

- improved fisheries management and enhanced protection of aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity;
- scaled-up innovative aquaculture and fisheries production and management systems and practices for more efficient and sustainable production through an intersectoral food system approach;
- strengthened inclusive and gender-sensitive fisheries and aquaculture value chains;
- increased resilience of fisheries and aquaculture sectors in the region.

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<sup>6</sup> The 33rd Session of APRC requested FAO to address the challenges being faced by countries in the region concerning: nutrition and food safety; inclusive value chain development; food waste and loss; transboundary animal and plant pests and diseases; sustainable production and resilience in the context of climate change; and data and analysis for decision-making, monitoring and evaluation.

### **C. Regional Initiative on Climate Change**

40. FAO is working to provide a comprehensive programme of support to member countries to enhance climate action for agriculture. FAO's growing portfolio of climate change activities strengthens member-country capacities to plan, implement and report on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and on strengthening resilience to climate-related shocks in the agriculture sectors.

41. At the global level, FAO launched its Strategy on Climate Change at the 40th Session of the FAO Conference. The strategy set three outcomes: enhancing member-country capacities on climate change; improving the integration of agriculture and food security into the global climate change agenda; and strengthening FAO's work on climate change. A revised Action Plan Results Framework for the Strategy was endorsed by the FAO Programme Committee in November 2017 and sets forth output indicators for FAO to support countries with Nationally Determined Contributions implementation, enhance access to finance, and better integrate agriculture and food security into national climate change and disaster risk reduction policies, strategies and programmes – among others. FAO is also supporting countries in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which is particularly relevant for Asia, where most of the disasters are climate-related.

42. At the regional and national levels, the Regional Initiative on Climate Change (RI-CC) will support the FAO Strategy on Climate Change and Action Plan Results Framework. The RI-CC directly responds to the emphasis that member countries placed, during the 33rd Session of APRC, on the importance of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement in guiding future actions in agriculture, food security and nutrition. RI-CC outcomes and priority activities are as follows:

- enhanced member-country capacities to scale up adaptation, enhance resilience and reduce emissions from the agriculture sectors;
- improved integration of agriculture and food security into the climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction agenda;
- strengthened FAO role in knowledge-sharing and partnership-building.

### **D. Regional Initiative on One Health**

43. The One Health approach emerged in response to zoonotic diseases that pose a threat to human health, often leading to emergency situations. It addresses complex and interconnected problems in a holistic manner. For example, it seeks to address the links between non-infectious diseases, pesticide residues, plant pest and disease outbreaks and cross-sectoral issues such as malnutrition and food safety. The One Health concept is also needed to progress towards sustainable agriculture and food systems and balanced diets derived from these systems, a key priority for FAO in the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-25) and in the context of the SDGs. Also of significance in the fast-growing Asia-Pacific region is trade. A One Health approach will integrate the development and improvement of risk management systems for regulating the safe movement of animals, plants and food. This requires coordination with national partners from agriculture, health, phytosanitary, veterinary and quarantine agencies. The expansion of the scope of One Health will address this continuum of risks and contribute to enhance the overall health of humans, animals, plants and the ecosystem. The RI-OH has three principle outcomes:

- guidance on evidence-informed processes;
- facilitation of an enabling environment for multisectoral decision-making;
- implementation of One Health-based risk management actions.

### **E. Interregional Initiative on SIDS - Pacific Component**

44. In response to the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and in close collaboration with UN partners and member countries, FAO led the development of the the Global Action Programme (GAP) on Food Security and Nutrition, which was officially launched at the 40th Session of the FAO Conference and was endorsed by Conference as one component of the 2018-19 Biennial Theme - *Climate change and its impact on the work and activities of FAO*.

45. The IRI is FAO's delivery mechanism for the GAP. It focuses on the thematic areas of the GAP in which FAO has a lead role to play, and builds on FAO's existing and planned projects and programmes by promoting and supporting coordinated action and knowledge-sharing, facilitating exchange of good practices, and serving as a mechanism for disseminating common sets of tools and approaches across the Pacific, Caribbean, and AIMS (the Atlantic and Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea) regions. Reflecting the spirit of the GAP, the IRI places particular emphasis on joining forces with other agencies, regional organizations, governments, development partners, civil society and the private sector. It will add value to the inner-region activities by promoting interregional collaboration. Priority outcomes through the Pacific component include:

- strengthened evidence base to support multisectoral policy action;
- improved sustainability, resilience and nutrition-sensitivity of Pacific SIDS food systems;
- scaled-up actions to improve food security and nutrition among key target groups.

46. The regional view of SP output targets for 2018-19 is presented in the Web Annex 3 entitled "Planned Contribution of Results in the Asia and Pacific Region to FAO Strategic Objective Output Targets in the 2018-19 biennium".

**Figure 1. FAO Results Framework – Main Components**

**FAO's vision**

A world free from hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner.

**The three global goals of members**

- 1) Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, progressively ensuring a world in which people at all times have sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life
- 2) Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development, and sustainable livelihoods
- 3) Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

**Strategic objectives**

- 1) Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
- 2) Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable
- 3) Reduce rural poverty
- 4) Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems
- 5) Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises

**Additional objective**

Technical quality, statistics and cross-cutting themes (climate change, gender, governance, nutrition)

**Core functions**

- 1) Facilitate and support countries in the development and implementation of normative and standard-setting instruments, such as international agreements, codes of conduct, and technical standards
- 2) Collect, analyse, monitor and improve access to data and information, in areas related to FAO's mandate
- 3) Facilitate, promote and support policy dialogue at global, regional and country levels
- 4) Advise and support capacity development at country and regional levels to prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate evidence-based policies, investments and programmes
- 5) Advise and support activities that gather, disseminate and improve the uptake of knowledge, technologies and good practices in the areas of FAO's mandate
- 6) Facilitate partnerships for food security and nutrition, agriculture and rural development, between governments, development partners, civil society and the private sector
- 7) Advocate and communicate at national, regional and global levels in areas of FAO's mandate

**Functional objectives**

- 1) Outreach
- 2) Information technology
- 3) FAO governance, oversight and direction
- 4) Efficient and effective administration