



## Lessons learned implementing the 2030 Agenda

*Findings of the 2017 Volunteer National Reviews (VNRs) for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture*

*The 2030 Agenda and its 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs), expected to provide the new framework for development work in the next 14 years, speak to the core principles of the reformed Committee on World Food Security (CFS). Because of its inclusive, cross-sectorial and evidence-based discussions and policy outcomes, CFS policy guidance and the CFS platform can make an important contribution respectively to the implementation and the Follow-up and Review of progress of the 2030 Agenda by countries. In turn, sharing lessons and experiences on countries' efforts to "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture", is crucial to support CFS' roles, create synergies with global efforts towards Zero Hunger, and inform discussions on how CFS can most effectively support countries efforts going forward.*

*National governments participating in the 2017 HLPF Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) in New York are invited to share with CFS Members and Stakeholders a few chosen experiences and challenges as they relate to Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Agriculture, as per the indicative questions below; interactive media support such as a short video can be included. In preparations, national governments are encouraged to work together with their national stakeholders; inputs received will be analyzed into a background document to support a moderated interactive discussion on selected topics during the opening day of CFS 44. Country delegations are encouraged to invite national multistakeholders, particularly youth, to join their delegation participating in this interactive lesson-sharing session on SDGs, which may feed CFS' contribution to future follow-up and reviews by the High Level Political Forum (HLPF).*

*Submissions, focused on concrete examples, good practices or challenges, should be no longer than 1500 words and submitted to [CFS@fao.org](mailto:CFS@fao.org) by **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 COB**.*

*These will be made available on the CFS website, with a link to the full report available on the High Level Political Forum website.*

## Private Sector Mechanism

### 1- Key element (s) (strategy, policies, programmes) characterizing national efforts to progress on food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture-related goals<sup>1</sup>, and first results. Has CFS policy guidance been useful to design or reform national policies?

The CFS provides a forum for constructive dialogue that is uniquely able to collect input from a wide diversity of actors and redefine inclusive roles for stakeholders in the implementation of the Agenda 2030 on the ground. The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT), endorsed by the CFS on May 2012, has been a key product and has had a very positive impact on the progress towards the achievement of SDG 2. The most immediate is a significant increase in the awareness of land tenure governance and its importance to furthering equality, food security, and livelihoods.

Land tenure is fundamental to food security. Effective, functioning systems for land tenure underpin successful achievement of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food. They can enhance and attract investment, both foreign and domestic to agriculture. The private sector is already the biggest engine of poverty reduction and economic growth in the developing world. On average, business provides 60% of GDP, 80% of capital flows and 90% of jobs in developing countries. It is the major source of the US\$1 trillion a year needed to finance development.

Some of the world's largest agribusiness companies have already made commitments to the VGGT and are working to improve land and forest tenure governance where they work, including Cargill, Illovo Sugar, Nestlé, PepsiCo, The Coca-Cola Company, and Unilever. Many other companies are reviewing the VGGT in the context of existing reporting mechanisms and relevant laws with a view to operationalizing them, or have embedded them in their approach to land tenure. For instance, work is being co-ordinated through many venues such as the World Bank, the Interlaken Group, the G20, and the UN Global Compact to highlight land tenure and the importance of making it operational.

The Food and Agriculture Business Principles that have been developed by the United Nations Global Compact include specific reference to “respecting land and natural resource rights.” One of the powers of such systems is to use Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting systems to create an effective means for companies to incorporate the Voluntary Guidelines into business reporting and is evidence of private sector engagement.

---

<sup>1</sup> Of particular interest are policies integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development, and examples of cross-cutting issues thus addressed.

The VGGT have been useful to highlight the importance for governments to prioritize the establishment of stable, predictable and transparent regulatory frameworks and legal systems to attract sustainable investments in agriculture. Constructive, clear discussions with investors are essential at a national level, and local governments have a primary role to play in providing good land tenure systems.

The table below showcases highlights from company commitments. It does not reflect all commitments made nor does it evaluate whether the company has kept its commitments.

Company	Commitment Highlights
Cargill <sup>a</sup>	<p>“Cargill supports government efforts around the world to clarify land tenure and property rights, and promote good land governance as we believe this is critical to agricultural and rural development and investment, all of which contribute to stability, poverty reduction and increased food security.”</p> <p>“Cargill recently joined the efforts of leaders of the G8 and global organizations to lend its voice in support of the VGGT on Responsible Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests.”</p> <p>“Cargill is committed to demonstrating its support for the VGGT in its global business transactions.”</p>
Coca-Cola	<p><b>The Coca-Cola Company Commitment: Land Rights and Sugar<sup>b</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Commit to zero tolerance for land grabbing</li> <li>• Will adhere to the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent across our operations (including bottling partners) and will require our suppliers to adhere to this principle.</li> <li>• Encourage the development of an industry-wide commitment within the next three years on sustainable sugarcane</li> <li>• Publicly advocate that food and beverage companies, traders, especially of soy, sugar, and palm oil, as well as sourcing country governments to endorse and implement the VGGTs and commit to respecting land rights.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Agriculture Guiding Principles<sup>c</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Recognize and safeguard the rights of communities and traditional peoples to maintain access to land and natural resources.</li> <li>• Require respect for and prohibit the violation of the land rights of individuals and communities.</li> <li>• Maintain positive community relations and contribute to local economic development.”</li> </ul>

Company	Commitment Highlights
	<p>In 2014, the company issued <b>Supplier Guiding Principles<sup>d</sup></b> that includes guidance for suppliers on land rights and FPIC</p>
Illovo Group	<p><b>Illovo Group Guidelines on Land and Land Rights<sup>e</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Illovo Group adopts a zero tolerance approach to land grabs and requires that all its Suppliers do likewise.”</li> <li>• “We have implemented a process to identify, and on an on-going basis we will continue to assess, through stakeholder engagement and other mechanisms, any negative impacts on land and land rights in the areas in which we operate.”</li> <li>• “In relation to small grower development and other projects involving the development of local farm land, we will carry out a due diligence investigation in relation to land rights in order to identify any competing land claims, or other land rights issues, and will seek to address these insofar as possible.”</li> <li>• “We will promote the adoption of responsible land rights practices (including those of the UNGC and the UN VGGT on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security) in our countries of operation.”</li> <li>• “In line with our Code of Conduct, Illovo adheres to the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in relation to our dealings with our local communities. This requirement extends to our Suppliers, who are also required to adopt a similar approach throughout their supply chains.”</li> </ul>
Nestlé	<p><b>Nestlé Commitment on Land and Land Rights in Agricultural Supply Chains<sup>f</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “We will adopt the FAO’s VGGT on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, and other relevant and accepted instruments that codify the rights of communities in relation to their land and natural resources.</li> <li>• “[Include] specific commitments on land, natural resources and human rights in our Responsible Sourcing Guideline for high risk commodities, including provisions by suppliers to ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have a zero tolerance for land grabs</li> <li>• They engage with and seek the support of those who could be affected by investment decisions prior to decisions being taken and respond to their contributions. They take into account existing power imbalances and ensuring active, free, effective, meaningful and informed participation of affected individuals and groups.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Company	Commitment Highlights
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They seek Free, Prior and Informed Consent with regard to the rights of Indigenous Peoples.</li> <li>• “[Work] with suppliers to implement actions to improve land rights wherever gaps are identified.</li> <li>• “[Include] respect for land rights in our due diligence review in relation to acquisitions and joint ventures that involve land acquisition.”</li> </ul>
PepsiCo	<p><b>PepsiCo Land Policy<sup>g</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “When PepsiCo is acquiring land, engage in fair (based on effective grievance mechanisms and processes) and legal negotiations on land transfers and acquisitions and utilize the IFC Performance Standards to implement the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles for agricultural development, in developing countries.”</li> <li>• “In countries from which PepsiCo sources raw commodities and where we do not believe adequate land rights protections are in place that are consistent with the IFC Performance Standards and the UN FAO VGGT on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (UN FAO Guidelines), advocate for the national government to use and follow the IFC Performance Standards and UN FAO Guidelines.”</li> </ul> <p>“Engage with appropriate industry and other groups to positively impact and respect all legitimate land tenure rights and the people who hold them.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Utilize the PepsiCo Responsible Sourcing Guidelines as well as the PepsiCo Sustainability Councils and processes to ensure continued engagement with and compliance by suppliers on relevant land issues”</li> </ul>
Unilever	<p><b>Sustainable Sourcing Strategy<sup>h</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Unilever recognises that the respect of land rights is critical for food security and for inclusive social and economic development. The practice of land grabbing does not drive sustainable and equitable growth and must be stopped. We are committed to the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent. This principle is included in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the UN VGGT on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries &amp; Forests in the context of National Food Security. <b>Unilever supports the implementation of these guidelines by national authorities.</b>”</li> <li>• “We also recognise the right of women to land ownership and access to land. One of the Fundamental Principles of Unilever’s Responsible Sourcing</li> </ul>

Company	Commitment Highlights
	<p>Policy is that the land rights of communities, including indigenous peoples, will be protected and promoted and a mandatory requirement is that due diligence relating to established rights to property and land is undertaken.”</p> <p><b>Responsible Sourcing Strategy<sup>i</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Land rights of communities, including indigenous peoples, will be protected and promoted</li> <li>• The rights and title to property and land of the individual, indigenous people and local communities are respected.</li> <li>• All negotiations with regard to their property or land, including the use of and transfers of it, adhere to the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent, contract transparency and disclosure.”</li> </ul>

## 2- Main challenges encountered in implementing these (particularly, bottlenecks and remaining policy gaps), and lessons learned on SDG implementation.

Business has a key role to play in achieving the SDGs and is already implementing the Agenda 2030. Private sector actors have undertaken a large number of projects to further the SDGs, and have attempted to include them in their operating frameworks. During this process, companies have encountered challenges and learned important lessons to ensure that business contributions to the SDGs remain positive and coherent.

While we see increasing engagement and action from business, it is important to highlight two important points. First, the long-lasting solution to development challenges lies in the core business activities of companies. Companies need to transform the way they think of and do their business. They need to align their strategies with the SDGs, engaging their Board and fully integrating sustainability across all business functions. Business contribution to sustainable development is not about what activities business undertakes but it is about how it conducts its own activities. Core business is the most powerful vehicle of change and success with regards to the SDGs.

Secondly, collaboration and partnerships will be key to achieve the SDG targets. The SDGs set very ambitious goals and propose to address the most complex global challenges, and it cannot be achieved in isolation. Typically, ensuring that everyone has nutritious and healthy food every single day calls for all businesses, large or small, to conduct responsible business. But it also calls for enhanced collaboration and partnerships with the public sector, research and civil society to craft and realize the innovative solutions that will make healthier choices possible, regardless of the region, culture and budget, and to ensure that no one is left behind.

## Challenges specific to the implementation of the VGGT:

- In many places, land tenure systems are effectively non-existent. It is important that there should be effective local administration of land registries without corruption. Dispute resolution mechanisms are essential. There must also be equal access to land for women.
- Fair, transparent rules benefit everyone. There is a need for clear national guidelines on land management, recognizing the needs of agriculture in land planning and the vital role of farmers. These are essential to successfully producing the food the world needs.
- The proliferation of guides to the guidelines and the differences among them is challenging. The PSM believes the CFS has the leadership role in this area and notes with concern the continued proliferation of processes and guidelines in this area and responsible agricultural investment. We encourage a consideration of clarity on who is doing guidelines and variations and to encourage coherence.
- Implementing the guidelines can be challenging due to the broadness of the wording of the VGGT. The VGGT is written in a negotiated format, with the private sector not being the primary audience. In this regard, PSM has provided suggestions for the review of CFS practices.
- Partnerships are important, but will be successful to the extent that the public policy goals are clear and are aligned with the CFS vision, are transparent, and open to scrutiny.

Below is a list of business case-studies presented during the PSM Partnership Forum on the SDGs that took place during CFS43 (October 2016). Each organization illustrates its contribution to one of the 17 SDGs.

### ***SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms - The National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM)***

The National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM) developed a program to tackle poverty and encourage development in the country. This programme has concrete goals including reduce post-harvest losses from 20% to less than 1% through rapid evacuation of crops immediately after harvest to the rural warehouses, proper storage and hygienic handling in the warehousing, thus improving food safety and nutrition.

As we seek to implement the SDGs, it is important that we underscore the fact that investment in agriculture and rural development is fundamental to achieving them. We must encourage increased agricultural development for all, by ensuring that smallholder farmers are empowered, and by ensuring that economic development supports both local production and the purchase of imports.



***SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture - Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)***

Government leadership is core to fortification and its partnership model because it sets regulations and applies health and food standards. Facilitators such as MI, UNICEF and GAIN have helped to provide guidance, training and consumer awareness to support the introduction of these fortified foods. Companies have played a key role by adapting and – and sometimes voluntarily adopting – this approach because they realize the importance of reducing VMDs to improve intelligence and educability among hundreds of millions of children, as well as tackle many disorders and diseases ranging from preventable birth defects and blindness, to weak immune systems leading to infections which kill millions of children.

The models of reengineering the food system to expand access to safe, affordable and nutritious foods are market, product and value chain specific. SDG2 cannot be delivered unless we set the bar high in terms of harnessing the power and innovation of markets to build a human friendly and sustainable food system.

***SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages - Nutriset***

Optimal nutrition is a powerful lever for motor and cognitive development, as well as economic and social growth in the long term. Since 2005, almost 35 million children have benefited from Nutriset & PlumpyField's nutritional products aimed at treating and preventing various forms of malnutrition. Their mission – nutritional autonomy for all – is fully embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals, and their nutrition-related indicators.

In addition to children, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women, people living with specific diseases such as HIV/AIDS and the elderly have specific nutritional needs, and therefore require specific attention. Nutriset has committed to developing products adapted to each specific case, thereby increasing by 25% the number of beneficiaries reached by 2020.

***SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls - Mead Johnson Nutrition***

Mead Johnson Nutrition has developed a public-private partnership in collaboration with government agencies, NGOs and private sector organizations to address malnutrition, help eradicate hunger, and improve mothers' ability to improve the standard of living for their families. As part of the program, mothers prepare nutritionally balanced meals for young children in schools and community settings over a six-month period. In addition, mothers attend workshops on proper diets, health, sanitation, parenting, family planning and financial management. Under an alternative livelihood program, the mothers create and sell handicrafts through a nationwide retail chain. The program is a social entry point for mothers and provides life skills classes, as well as enrichment programs.



***SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all - Inaya Group Ltd***

There are macro and micro ways of weaving sustainable water management into property management and development. Macro ways include laws, policies and financing frameworks such as policies that consider the provision, use, disposal and sustainability of water, the incorporation of water management into the curriculum of engineers, architects and building courses, and the development of water rights laws that resolve long term issues like the availability and cost of desalination technology, control of pollution, and curtail reckless real estate development. Micro ways refer to how agriculture competes with industry and municipal users for safe water supplies, while traditional water sources are becoming polluted with urban wastewater.

We need both macro and micro approaches. In the macro, frameworks that catalyze change through external forces that focus on evidence-based action and not sector based folklore, private and public funding for projects that meet sustainable criteria, and innovative governance structures to enable project implementation are needed. In the micro, we should consider transforming rapid urbanization scenarios with integrated urban water management.

***SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all - Bunge***

Bunge's sustainability approach – Citizenship – aims to improve the food production chain from end to end. With over 35,000 employees working from more than 40 countries, Bunge's global safety and health initiative makes the entire organization accountable. The key to the success of Bunge's Citizenship approach is their people. Bunge has a zero-incident goal which is continuously monitored, and it is committed to promoting a safe, fair and collaborative working environment. To this end, Bunge seeks out people who embody the company's values of Integrity, Teamwork, Openness and Trust, Entrepreneurship and Citizenship.

Bunge has a global labor policy and a global code of conduct. The company requires that its operations and employees comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations in the countries where it is engaged in business. Bunge's employees also shall abide by company policies, including Bunge's Code of Conduct and the principles contained in this Global Labor Policy. In addition, Bunge expects its subcontractors' and suppliers' compliance with this Policy and laws designed to protect their workers.

***SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation - International Fertilizer Association***

The International Fertilizer Association (IFA) is the only global association representing all actors along the fertilizer supply chain from producers to the end-user. IFA's mission is strongly rooted

in the efficient and responsible production, distribution and use of plant nutrients, which play a vital role in achieving global food security.

As part of the fertilizer industry's commitment to the SDGs, sustainable industrialization and good manufacturing practices are taking shape through the "Protect & Sustain" initiative, which has been developed by IFA industry members for IFA members to ensure that the products are responsibly developed, sourced, manufactured, stored and transported. This voluntary partnership was developed by IFA with independent auditing firms, and it has become the *de facto* global product stewardship standard for fertilizer production over the past two years. What sets Protect & Sustain apart from other, similar industry initiatives, is its point-based measurement tools that allow companies to improve individual scores over time and become better in maximizing their efficiency, sustainability, safety and product security while minimizing their environmental impact.

#### ***SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries - Vestergaard Frandsen***

Insect infestation is the number one challenge to storage for small scale farmers and national reserves, reducing the quantity and quality of stored grain between 20-40% which in this setting is the margin between profit and loss. This has forced farmers to sell their products soon after harvest at non-favourable prices, rather than capitalizing on the benefit of storage.

To address this challenge, Vestergaard Frandsen developed the Zero fly storage bag. The slow release insecticide effects last's for over two years, giving the farmer the option of reusing the sack in numerous harvest cycles, maximizing on storage and ultimately generating better returns in favourable markets for the farmers. The ZF storage bag protects the grain from insect infestation, saving on the cost for repeated chemical treatment fumigation hence giving to small scale farmers better chances to maximize their profit through cheap, safe, and prolonged storage solutions equally than large equal commercial farmers as well as farmers in more developed countries.N

#### ***SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable - Duxton Asset Management***

To achieve the goal of making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable requires looking beyond urban centers. Cities often maintain strong linkages with rural areas and share a symbiotic relationship. One cannot thrive without the other. In the case of Duxton Asset Management, their investments are focused on primary agriculture production, most of which are in the rural areas.

Agricultural investments and sound planning have an important role in strengthening the social and economic linkages between urban and rural areas. An example would be the company's investments in the tea sector in Darjeeling, which produces 30% of Darjeeling tea. Significant

investments were made to rehabilitate and convert tea estates in Darjeeling, with over 14 tea estates employing 10,000 direct employees and 60,000 dependents.

A comprehensive economic and social program was introduced to improve living and economic conditions for the employees and their dependents. These include upgrading of housing facilities, and income augmentation programs which allowed employees to grow crops such as turmeric, ginger, and honey for sale into the local markets. By improving social and economic conditions for the employees, the staff turnover rate and reduced migration into the city of Kolkata were reduced.

Agricultural investments and sound planning have an important role in strengthening the social and economic linkages between urban and rural areas. By creating good conditions for work in the rural agricultural space, pressure from rural migration into cities can be relieved. On the other hand, agricultural activities in the rural sector also contributes to the creation of jobs in urban areas where processing and value addition are typically made, making these cities more inclusive and sustainable.

#### ***SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns - McLarty Associates***

The negative global economic impact from obesity is roughly \$2.0 trillion, or 2.8% of world GDP. As the problem of obesity continues to grow, the debate continues to be dominated by tensions between stakeholders.

One potential approach is the Alliance for Food Health (AFH). AFH is a new multi-stakeholder initiative designed to develop better ways to address non-communicable disease challenges. AFH is set to provide a wide range of solutions to obesity-related problems through the collaboration between diverse actors that include more than 150 participants from civil society, private sector, international organizations, universities, scientific bodies, and others. In addition, AFH offers a highly interdisciplinary approach including public health, economics, nutrition, public administration, marketing, and other fields. AFH's actionable and innovative ideas will be highly data-driven, backed by sound science, and are expected to take the form of actionable suggestions to government, industry, and others. AFH is committed to maintaining a balance between actors as it looks to address critical global public health issues. AFH's written first products will be available in mid-2017.

#### ***SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts - Global Pulse Confederation***

Pulses are a food source which bridges human and planet health. Pulses are a vital source of plant-based proteins for people around the globe that help prevent chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions, and cancer. In addition, pulses like chickpeas, beans, and lentils have a low carbon footprint, and nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility, and have a positive impact on the environment. New more resilient strains of pulse

seeds, like the White Gold Bean, which has been so successful in Ethiopia, have been developed to help farmers fight the impact of climate change.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization has declared 2016 the International Year of Pulses (IYP) to further global production of pulses, increase the efficiency of crop rotations, and address trade challenges. The Global Pulse Confederation (GPC) has been a proud contributor to FAO and the work on the International Year. In addition, GPC has partnered with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada. By working together with leading researchers from all over the world, a new 10-Year Pulse Research Strategy has been drafted to advocate for accelerated pulse research investments and focus funding for pulses where it is needed.

***SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development - Piscari Fisheries Ltd.***

Oceans and aquatic ecosystems naturally produce around 15%-16% of all animal meat protein consumed globally. Combined with aquaculture, this figure jumps to over 30%. These ecosystems offer the largest animal meat protein group. In this context, co-management is a way to guarantee the sustainable utilisation and conservation of oceans, seas and marine resources.

As a multi stakeholder approach, co-management consists of strategic partnerships between local, regional and international fisheries management authorities, the private sector, governments, academic and research institutions and constructive civil society organizations. One of the primary pillars of co-management is in the ownership and transferability of scientifically assessed fishing rights or quotas. This critical element gives the private sector a stake in the resource and a measurable interest in ensuring its longevity for all generations to come. Using Australia as a case study, out of 96 Commonwealth managed fish stocks, none are currently being overfished. This has only been possible through the ongoing participation of the private sector in managing those fisheries.

***SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss - Juan Gonzalez-Valero, Head Public Policy and Sustainability, Syngenta***

Under SDG 15 is supported by the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) that has set the Zero Net Degradation goal, as part of SDG 15. As part of the Good Growth Plan, Syngenta has commitment to improve the fertility of 10 million hectares of farmland – this will help to halt and reverse land degradation, and combat desertification. It has also committed to enhance biodiversity on 5 million hectares of farmland – and thus support the halt of biodiversity loss.

Syngenta is promoting conservation practices based on minimum soil disturbance, crop rotation, permanent ground cover, and biodiversity enhancing landscape management through e.g. multifunctional field margins. These are aimed at preventing, halting, and reversing land degradation by contributing to organic carbon storage, water retention and soil biological activity, and on planting rich habitats on marginal and less productive farmland alongside fields and waterways to create interconnected habitat infrastructures. Their concrete action is to embed soil and biodiversity enhancing protocols in our commercial offer, use demonstration farms in partnership with universities and local stakeholders, and to engage decision makers and other stakeholders in our partnership with the UNCCD Soil Leadership Academy for policy and decision makers and with commercial partners.

Since the Good Growth Plan is implemented, Syngenta has a fully transparent and audited system of measuring and reporting on progress. The progress made today is 4 million hectares, about 25% of our 2020 target of 15 million hectares. They have projects in over 30 countries in Europe, Latin America, North America and Asia which encompass a variety of local partnerships and environmental and cultural approaches to soil conservation, multifunctional field margins, managed forests, and biodiversity-friendly farming, directly contributing to the objective of SDG 15, to halt biodiversity loss and zero net land degradation.

*SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels - Flaminia Battistelli, Senior External Relations Officer, International Development Law Organization (IDLO)*

As the only intergovernmental organization with an exclusive mandate to promote the rule of law, IDLO believes that to tackle the challenge of the SDGs effectively, the rule of law with its basic principles of equal protection, accountability and transparency, is a building block without which development cannot be sustained. In a ground-breaking move, the 2030 Agenda has put justice firmly at the heart of development, with a dedicated goal and related targets.

Strong rule of law is essential as a foundation for economic and social development. There are great benefits to business, and other stakeholders, in respecting and supporting the rule of law. Where the rule of law is weak, it is harder for responsible businesses to function, to meet their legal obligations and have their legal rights protected. That is IDLO believes in innovative Partnerships where all stakeholders have a key role to play in the implementation of Goal 16 and the entire Agenda. At the policy level, IDLO is founding member of the UN Global Compact Business for the Rule of Law Framework, which seeks to advance justice by engaging responsible business to support the strengthening of legal frameworks and accountable institutions – serving as a complement to, not substitute for, government action.

The implementation of the SDGs won't be possible unless the private sector is at the table. The kind of work IDLO does is critical for investment and creating the confidence of the private

sector to invest and create jobs. IDLO is open to collaboration, they already involve the private sector in their policy work, and they are now open to more engagement.

*SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development* - Bernhard Stormyr, Head of Sustainability Management, Yara International

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the world has in hand a comprehensive and integrated blueprint for global sustainability in economic, social, environmental – and ethical – terms. It is widely accepted that all global and local stakeholders will need to mobilize and work together to achieve the ambitions set by this agenda. And this will require the active engagement of the business community itself as well as constructive partnerships across sectors, public and private, to design and deliver effective, scalable and practical solutions together.

The UN Global Compact's vision and priority is to mobilize a global movement of responsible companies and organizations to create the world we want. It is very encouraging and inspiring to hear about all the examples that have been presented during this event. Business is already contributing the realization of the SDGs through their own activities and through collective action.

Other case-studies have been collected on these pages:

<http://agrifood.net/sustainable-development-goals/goal-2-implementation>

<http://www.businessfor2030.org/>