

Barrie Bain
On behalf of the private sector mechanism

CFS40
Special Event

Food security is closely connected to economic growth and social progress in developing countries. The food security agenda should focus on agriculture and empowering smallholder farmers to be successful food producers. It is the backbone of the economy in many developing countries and farmers represent a disproportionate part of the world's poor and hungry.

An important pathway to achieving food security is to enable smallholder farmers to break the subsistence cycle and become small scale entrepreneurs.

The primacy of food availability in the face of a growing population demands an increase in productive capacity in farming around the world and a reduction in pre- and post-harvest losses and food waste.

A farmer-centered approach is needed, ensuring they have access to the things they need to produce a crop – such as the best-adapted seed technologies, land, water, knowledge, inputs and credit. Rural infrastructure needs to be in place to allow for market access and farmers to sell their products.