



## PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

16-17 May 2013 rai OEWG MEETING – FAO, Red Room

### Background and rationale

Investing responsibly in agriculture, and particularly in smallholder agriculture, is essential for reducing poverty, creating decent employment opportunities, promoting food security and environmental sustainability.

Agricultural investments can generate a wide range of developmental benefits. In order to do so, however, they need to be responsible and specifically directed towards the achievement of such benefits, while aiming at avoiding potential negative consequences.

To address these needs, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) has launched a consultative process to develop and ensure broad ownership of Principles for responsible agricultural investment. These are expected to promote investments in agriculture that contribute to food security and nutrition, and that support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

The Principles are intended to provide practical guidance to governments, private and public investors, intergovernmental and regional organizations, civil society organizations, research organizations and universities, donors and foundations. They will be voluntary and non-binding and should be interpreted and applied consistently with existing obligations under national and international law.

The first step is for the OEWG to provide feedback on the zero draft of the rai principles. Thereafter consultations will be held at the regional and global levels. All consultation outcomes will contribute to the drafting of the First Draft which will subsequently be negotiated by the OEWG. The resulting Principles will then be presented to the 41<sup>st</sup> session of CFS in 2014 for endorsement by Plenary.

### Objectives and outcomes

The objective of the OEWG meeting is to provide feedback and inputs to the Zero Draft.

The expected output of the meeting is:

- a Chair's summary that will feed into the regional consultations and the preparation of the first draft of the Principles.
- to contribute to build a comprehensive collective understanding of the variety of views on the content and use of Principles for responsible agricultural investment.

### Participants

The active participation from governments, the civil society mechanism (CSM), international agricultural research organisations, UN system institutions including international financial institutions, representatives of private sector mechanism and private philanthropic foundations, will ensure the multi-stakeholder nature of the discussion and its outcomes.

### Working arrangements

In addition to Plenary sessions, participants will be asked to work in facilitated multistakeholder groups in order to ensure maximum interaction among stakeholders. They will focus their discussions on three guiding questions:

- 1) Is the Zero Draft an accessible document in terms of structure, style and language?
- 2) Does the Zero Draft adequately reflect the purpose of the principles as per the ToRs?
- 3) Does the Zero Draft adequately reflect the nature of the principles as highlighted in the ToRs?

Each Group will nominate a Rapporteur who will present a summary of the discussion in Plenary.

## Preliminary Programme

	<b>16 May</b>		<b>17 May</b>
09.00 – 10:30	<p>Welcoming remarks and Introduction</p> <p>Purpose and expected outcomes of the OEWG meeting</p> <p>Presentation of the zero draft of the rai principles and Q&amp;A</p> <p>Working arrangements (Format, facilitation and reporting)</p>	09.00 – 11:30	Plenary: Reports of Group discussions
10:30–12:30	Group discussions on the three guiding questions	11:30–12:30	Plenary: Presentations on related initiatives
12:30-14:00	Lunch	12:30-14.00	Lunch
14:00–16:00	Group discussions on the three guiding questions	14.00-17.00	Plenary: Presentation and discussion of Chair's Summary
16.00 - 18:00	Plenary: General Statements	17.00-17:30	Wrap up and closing remarks