

Wednesday , 14 October 12:30– 14:00

Philippines Room

Policy coherence of rural development and trade promotion in post-2015 – growing closer for mutual benefit in food and nutrition security #49

ORGANIZERS

Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD)

The Netherlands

European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

WFO (World Farmers Organization)

World Trade Organization (WTO)

Abstract: Trade promotion in agricultural produce is seen as one of the major development factors by a growing number of development partners. Donor agencies focus on aid-for-trade investments and governments of developing countries sign new trade agreements and engage in trade facilitation. The recently concluded 5th Global Review of Aid-for Trade of the World Trade Organization (WTO) showed that the trade and agriculture nexus continue to face very specific challenges. It is paramount that policy coherence of rural development and trade promotion need to be the result a common understanding on the multiple changes, adjustments and changing priorities of institutions and actors, in particular Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and farming communities and their associations. The broad array of necessary measures to fully use the potential of trade for rural development and food and nutrition security will be presented in the context of the Post-2015 agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals and the agreement on Finance for Development. Trade-specific mechanisms and instruments like trade facilitation as well as initiatives to foster rural development like capacity building will be mapped out to develop a more comprehensive design of promoting trade and rural development in a comprehensive and mutually supportive way.

KEYWORDS: Agricultural trade , Cross-sectorial Policies , Institutional Change , Rural Transformation and Economic Development

Languages: EN

Summary: During the No More Food to Waste side-event, the focus was on the amount of food that is either wasted or lost globally, an estimated 1/3 of all food production. This amounts to approximately 750 million USD. As stated by Hans Hoogeveen, Vice-Minister for Agriculture of the Netherlands, in order to meet the expected demand in 2050 of around 9 billion people, food production needs to increase by 60%. In addition to the loss in consumption and food security, around ¼ of the water utilized for agricultural production is lost as well, while still contributing around 7% in greenhouse gas emission. The No More Food to Waste initiative aims to contribute to the Zero Hunger Challenge, COP21 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by focusing on the linkages between food waste and loss, food security, climate change, and sustainable development.

Craig Hanson, Director at the World Resources Institute, explained how to utilize some of the success of the Millennium Development Goals in achieving the SDGs. A central pillar in this will be the strength of the political leadership – the Champions 12.3. These Champions come from different sectors – government, companies, international organisations, research institutes, and civil society – on a voluntary basis to mobilize action aimed at meeting SDG target 12.3, halving global food waste and losses by 2030. Ren Wang introduced FAO's projects in this area, as did James Lomax regarding UNEP's ongoing efforts to reducing food waste and loss. Both consider target 12.3 as highly achievable, and see NO More Food to Waste as an important step to incorporate multiple stakeholders from both the food chain and international organisations.