A comprehensive approach to ending poverty, hunger and malnutrition:

How FAO is supporting Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

An FAO technical briefing by
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Nearly 800 million the number of extreme poor and chronically undernourished

Two billion suffering from micronutrient deficiency (iron, zinc, vitamin A)

Nearly 1 in 4 children under age five today are stunted

45% of deaths under age five are attributed to malnutrition

1.9 billion overweight, 600 million obese

Malnutrition in all its forms represents the #1 risk factor in the global burden of disease

Extreme poverty is the number one factor for lack of access to food

Malnutrition costs trillions of US$ in terms of premature death, reduced productivity and thus perpetuates poverty
80% of the world’s extreme poverty and hunger is in the rural areas, rural share is growing

The vast majority of the extreme poor in rural areas are involved in agriculture, they grow food but too little to feed themselves or escape poverty

Rural poor diversify their livelihoods among rural farm and non-farm activities often dependent on agriculture: growth in agriculture and the rural economy is key

The rural poor are important custodians of the world’s agricultural resources and biodiversity

Combatting climate change depends on the incentives smallholder farmers have to adapt and take actions to mitigate CC impacts 95% of INDCs in Paris Agreement include agriculture

A comprehensive strategy which supports sustainable agriculture and the rural space contributes to addressing extreme hunger, poverty and promotes
What are the key challenges and risk factors?

- Continued population growth → 9.5 bn + higher incomes driving a food transition towards more “western” dietary patterns
- Stress and degradation of natural resources despite global abundance
- Low productivity of agricultural resources and rural assets held by the poor
- Climate change will exacerbate resource constraints in tropical environments with the smallholders and poor getting the brunt of it
- Rural stagnation: 3.5 bn, not shrinking, getting poorer, land fragmentation
- Non-agricultural sector growth not capable of absorbing increased supply of labour
The relationship between agriculture and food is changing:

- At global level, more than 80% of the value-addition in food takes place beyond the farm.
- Food value chains are lengthening, more actors and opportunities but also more concentrated.
- Modern food chains put traditional market arrangements and actors in danger (quality and safety standards, large retail, pressure on agriculture and smallholders).
- Dietary transition is contributing to new challenges for achieving healthy diets.
1. **Agricultural path**
   Medium to large scale activities, small scale commercial activities, part of those with marginal potential

2. **Diversification**
   Combining farming with other forms of self employment including in the expanded food value chains, sharpening entrepreneurial and other skills for RNF employment but also in cities and rural towns

3. **Diversification out of agriculture**
   For other forms of self employment and wage labour, including migration: mainly landless and smallholders in degrading agro-ecological environments: Agriculture may not be a viable option

**Conditioned by many factors:**
- Dynamic, intermediate and hinterland zones; agro-climate
- Stage of structural and agricultural transformation
- Access to resources, services, technology, information, etc.
- Existing rural infrastructure, food systems, etc.
- Institutional framework
- Household characteristics (including gender, ethnicity, dependency ratios)
- Conflict and disaster-prone areas
- Political economy, etc.
The Contribution of Social Protection

- Essential to combat poverty and hunger, including in development contexts, high risk areas and in fast changing environments
- SP boosts family incomes and food security
- SP transforms people’s lives by enhancing the economic and productive potential of the rural poor.
- SP has income multipliers in the local economy
- The impacts of SP can be boosted through better coordination with agricultural and livelihoods interventions
- Despite it’s proven potential, 70% of the world population, particularly in rural areas, lack social protection coverage
Linking SDGs 1 and 2: A twin-track approach

**SDG1**
- 1.1 Eradicate extreme poverty
- 1.2 Reduce proportion living in poverty in all dimensions
- 1.3 Implement social protection systems
- 1.4 Ensure equal rights to economic resources, including access to land
- 1.5 Build resilience of the poor to climate change and other shocks
- 1.b Create sound policy frameworks at national, regional, and global levels
- 1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from all sources

**SDG2**
- 2.1 End hunger and ensure access
- 2.2 End all forms of malnutrition
- 2.3 Double productivity and incomes of small producers
- 2.4 Ensure sustainable food production systems
- 2.b Correct and prevent trade distortions
- 2.c Ensure proper functioning of food commodity markets and timely access to market info
- 2.a Increase investment to enhance productive capacity
- 2.5 Maintain genetic diversity and promote equitable access and sharing

**CONNECTIONS**
- Focus on rural space
- Promote sustainable productivity of agricultural resources
- Ensure access to productive resources along the value chain
- Enhance social protection for LT benefits
- Consider a holistic approach: the food system and the territory
FAO Vision for the 2030 Agenda

“LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND”

Enable Sustainable Development in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests
- Protect biodiversity, foster sustainable agriculture, promote sustainable use of natural resources

End Hunger, Malnutrition and Poverty
- End hunger, all forms of malnutrition, and rural poverty; promote sustainable food and agriculture systems

Combat and Adapt to Climate Change
- Adaptation and mitigation, Climate smart food and agriculture, climate change preparedness and resilience

Means of Implementation:
- Finance/Investment; Trade and Market Access; Access to Technology; Capacity development

= PARTNERSHIPS

Global Reporting, Monitoring, Follow-up and Review

= ACCOUNTABILITY

COMMUNICATIONS
• 53 SDG indicators incorporated in corporate results matrix
• Assumed custodial responsibility for data on 21+5 SDG indicators
• SDGs standing items in CFS, COAG, COFI, COFO and five Regional Conference
• Country Programming Frameworks aligned with national SDG targets
• FAO Strategic Programs recalibrated to achieve transformational change:

*Eradicate extreme poverty and end hunger and all forms of malnutrition*
FAO principles for country support

- Country leadership and ownership
- Approach to policy is evidence-based and dialogic
- “Never go alone” – delivery of support is almost always through partnerships with others
- “Leave no one behind” – we seek to make the poor and vulnerable partners, rather than mere beneficiaries
1. Building and sustaining national, regional and global commitment – multiple entry points

2. Strengthen the capacities of stakeholders to better focus on rural poverty and hunger – evidence-based policies, programmes, legal frameworks, investments, M and E

3. Building robust and accountable multistakeholder partnerships

4. Adapting and strengthening institutions for more effective and inclusive governance – comprehensive multi-sectoral approaches, rights based principles, etc.
Global Level
• Provide norms, standards and data to support a variety of intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder processes

Regional Level
• Support design and implementation of regional initiatives at regional and country levels

National Level
• Support to national “Zero Hunger” initiatives
• Build enabling environments for policies and programmes to achieve transformative change on FSN
• Mobilize means of implementation through S-S, N-S and triangular partnerships
• With RBA support CFS has become the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all
• Deliberations based on robust evidence provided including through an independent body of experts (HLPE) but also by others
• Promotes policy convergence across sectors and stakeholders
• Provides norms and policy guidance in the form of negotiated voluntary frameworks (Right to Food; VGGTs; RAI; FFA on Protracted Crises)
• Monitoring of impacts and sharing of lessons learned from country experiences
• *Leave no one behind*: CFS focus on those most impacted by hunger and poverty
Sustaining Global Commitment: ICN2 and the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition

Decade of impact for all stakeholders

To strengthen collective efforts worldwide towards eradicating hunger and ending all forms of malnutrition as agreed in the 2030 Agenda

To translate the ICN2 commitments into policies, programmes, and investments

To mobilise coordinated support from across society to increase the scale, scope and impact of nutrition actions

To promote mutual learning and collective accountability for achieving global, regional and national nutrition commitments

Leave no one behind
Support to regional commitments: 
Africa’s Commitment to End Hunger by 2025

Implementation of CAADP Roadmap for “Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods”

Priority actions

• Reinforcing national and regional food security and nutrition information systems

• Supporting policy dialogue and development of evidence-based nutrition sensitive agriculture policy and investment.

• Developing capacity in preparing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating evidence based policies, investments and programmes on food security and nutrition.

• Support AUC and NEPAD, to establish an African Centre for Best Practices, Capacity Development and South-South Cooperation
Objective: Permanently eradicate hunger by the year 2025

Lines of Work:

• **Policies, legislative frameworks, and institutional development**: Planning and programming support to governments; support to Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger; work with academics, civil society and private sector

• **Alliances and triangular cooperation**: Support to triangular cooperation agreement (Mexico-FAO-Spain)

• **Governance support**: Serve as secretariat for IALCSH; in cooperation with SPAIN, provide technical support/training for formulation of public policies
Building national and local capacity through robust, accountable partnerships

Home Grown School Feeding to end poverty and hunger

Concept: harness structured demand from school food provision to

- Generate stable demand for local/national food production from small producers, improve incomes and resilience of livelihoods
- Improve nutrition among school-age children
- Improve school attendance, learning capacity, learning outcomes
- Promote diversification of agricultural production
- Improve nutrition awareness at school and beyond
- Enhance gender equality

Programs: policy support and capacity development throughout Africa and Latin America

Partners: National and local governments/institutional procurers; Rome-based agencies; local producers and distributors
Building human and organizational capacity through accountable partnerships

FIRST – Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation

An innovative EU-FAO partnership that provides governments with policy support and capacity development to:

1. Review the existing national policy and institutional frameworks related to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture;

2. Identify opportunities for improving impact;

3. Advocate and develop human and organizational capacities for change;

4. Produce evidence-based and inclusive policy dialogues;

5. Strengthen coordination mechanisms with relevant stakeholders.

Provides senior policy assistance through dedicated policy advisory support in 35 countries worldwide.

Supports €8 bn EU commitment to support accelerated action in 60 countries.
Strengthening capacity for effective action: Kenya (FIRST)

Improving policy and investment coordination in the context of decentralisation

- Special focus on revision of policies formulated prior to devolution (e.g., Agriculture Sector Development Strategy), and contribute to formulation of National Agriculture Investment Plan

- Technical support to the newly established intergovernmental coordination mechanisms, in close coordination with international partners

- Institutional support to the Ministry of Agriculture in order to facilitate interdepartmental and intergovernmental coordination

- Key early result: establishment of Joint Agriculture Sector Steering Committee for effective consultation and collaboration between the two levels of government on agriculture-related issues
Strengthening capacity for effective action: Cambodia (FIRST)

Strengthening cross sectoral integration and capacity for implementation of plans and policies for food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture

- **Priorities:**
  - Ensure policies, strategies and programmes underway in each of the sectors will reflect food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture concerns
  - Address key capacity gaps for costing and cross-sectoral implementation in agriculture and fisheries
  - Support integration of FNSSA in Master Plan for Agriculture and in fisheries and education
  - Strengthen Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) in its mandate to coordinate and provide policy guidance
Improving governance for effective action

• At country level, FAO approach is invited, country-led, problem- and people-centric, adaptive and iterative

• National governance for SDGs is strengthened through a variety of instruments, concepts, tools, and approaches, including VGGTs/RAI

• Providing data for analysis and follow-up and review

• Three approaches to integrated, holistic and participatory policy formulation and decision-making:
  - Implementation of Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries
  - Value-chain governance to address information asymmetries and improve small-producer benefits
  - Territorial approaches to development
• The global commitments to end poverty and hunger – SDGs 1&2 – are the heart of the 2030 Agenda and should be tackled together.

• The rural poor must become primary agents of change

• Creating robust enabling environments to accomplish this is a complex task that requires innovative, monitored and accountable approaches

• FAO is working at all levels to improve the enabling environments, engaging countries and regions on their own terms, while bringing the comparative perspectives of a global organization

• We are committed to partnership as a matter of principle and as a long-standing practice

• We are equally committed to accountability for results and, to this end, have reformed our own institutional framework to become more country focused and better positioned to support holistic, inclusive and transformative change.

Thank you!