



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Agricultural Development Economics Division (ESA)

A regional rice strategy for sustainable food security in Asia and the Pacific

Side event

32nd Asia-Pacific Regional
Conference

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
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A Vision for the Rice Economy

- Food-secure, better nourished and prosperous rice farmers and consumers in the Asia/Pacific region who benefit equitably from a vibrant, innovative and transformed rice sector that is more productive, efficient and environmentally sustainable by 2030.



Objectives (1)

- Increase the productivity and nutrition value of rice sustainably to meet the increasing global demand.
- Enhance the rice value chain by improving food quality, diversity and food safety while reducing post-harvest losses.
- Improve mitigation/adaptation of rice farming to climate change and improve farmers' capacity to cope with risk.



Objectives (2)

- Minimize the environmental footprint of rice production and enhance the ecosystem functions of rice landscapes, including the protection/promotion of rice heritage and culture.
- Improve the efficiency, reliability and fairness of domestic and international rice markets for stabilizing rice price and supply, ensuring equitable access by the poor and promoting regional collaboration.
- Enhance the well-being and livelihoods of smallholders, women and the new generation of rice producers by improving adjustments to long-term changes in demography, farm size and labour supply.



Broad Thematic Areas

- Sustainable intensification of rice production
- Climate change mitigation/adaptation and risk management
- Environment and rice heritage
- Water and irrigation
- Smallholder farmers and farmer organizations
- Gender roles and empowerment of youth and women
- Food quality, safety and nutrition
- Value chains and post-harvest operations
- Policies on rice price, trade and stock
- Regional cooperation on rice
- Food and nutrition security in Pacific Island countries (PICs)



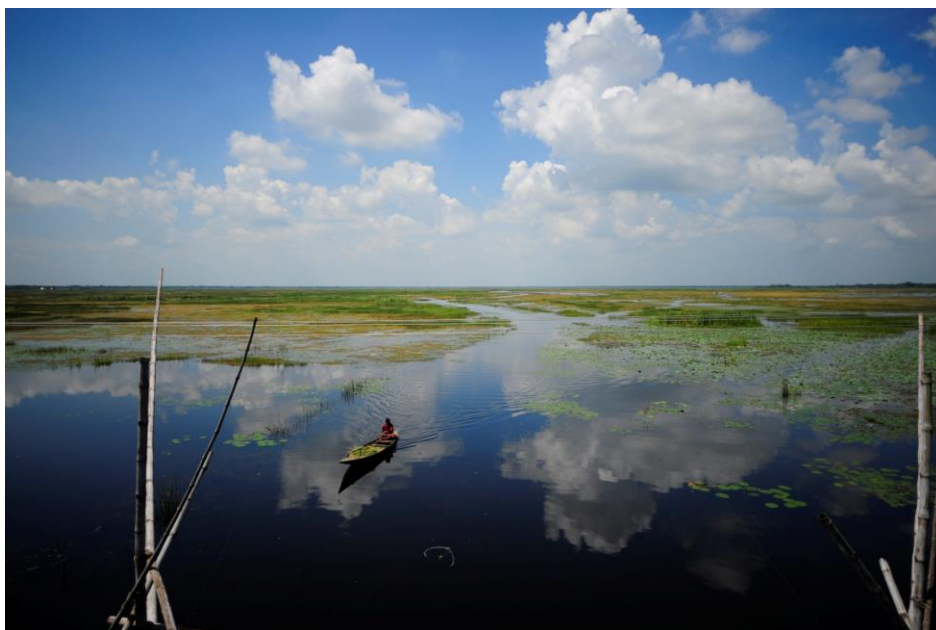
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Sustainable intensification of rice production





Climate change mitigation/adaptation and risk management





Environment and rice heritage





Water and irrigation





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Smallholder farmers and farmer organizations





Gender roles and empowerment of youth and women





Food quality, safety and nutrition



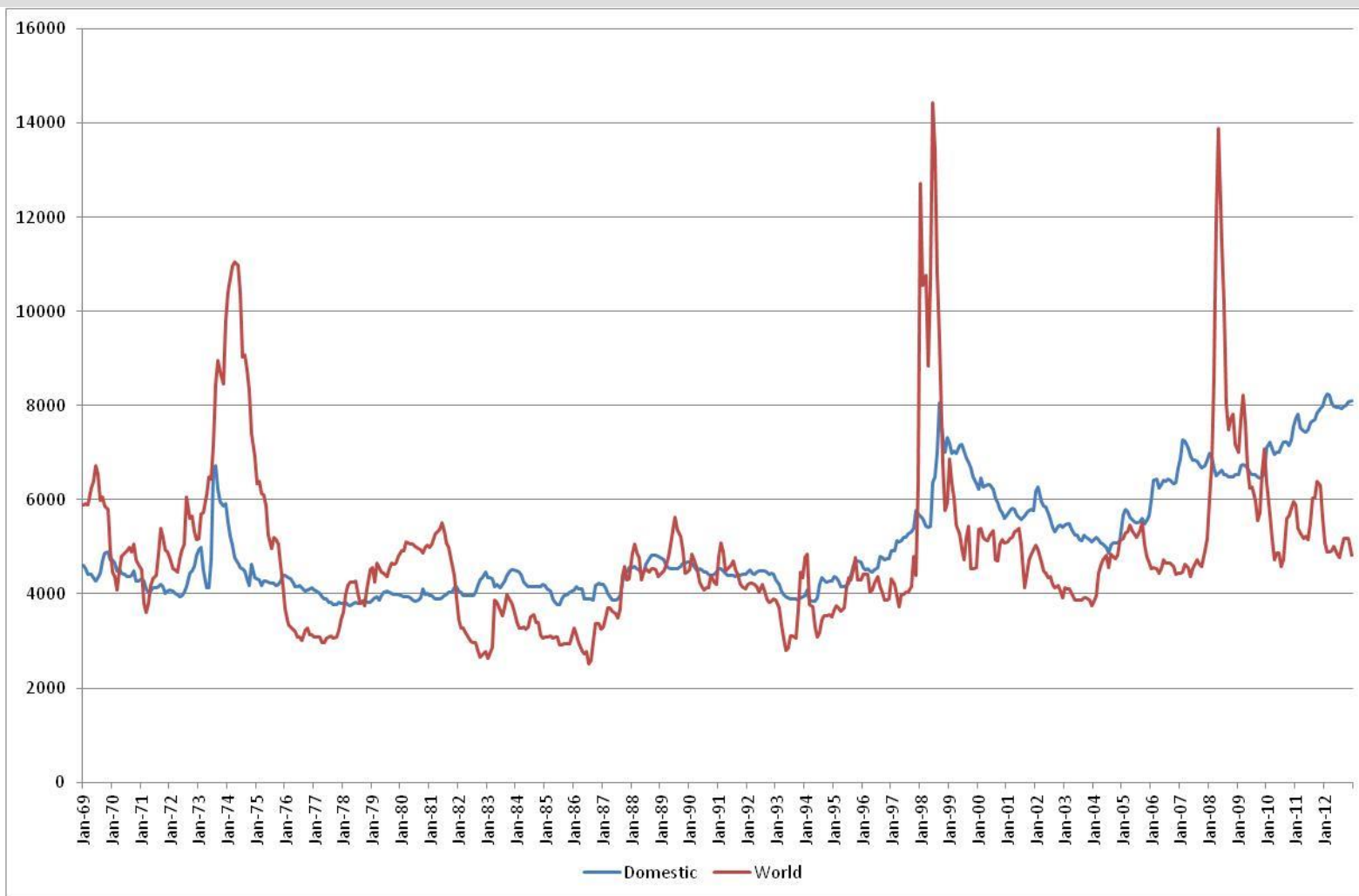


Value chains and post-harvest operations





Policies on rice price, trade and stock



Regional cooperation





Food and nutrition security in Pacific Island countries (PICs)

- How to build a resilient and sustainable food security system that integrates rice with traditional food crops?
- What is the economically optimal level of domestic production of rice vis-à-vis imports?
- What public investment and policy framework will promote long-term food security?



The Way Forward

- **Investment in R&D** for inducing and supporting technological innovations in all stages of the rice value chain for productivity and efficiency gains, better quality and nutritional value, greater resilience and environmental protection.
- **Policy and institutional innovations** to promote rural income growth and the rapid spread of improved technologies, and to develop a robust food security system that is stable and accessible to all.
- **Investment in rural infrastructure.**



Next steps

- FAO will support national initiatives of selected countries to translate the regional strategy into country-level actions by refining existing national rice strategies or formulating new ones as needed.
- There is also potential to organize a network among countries to share experiences and approaches.



Thank you for your kind attention