



FAO/OECD Expert Meeting on GEA, Paris, 5-7 September 2011

# GREENING THE ECONOMY WITH AGRICULTURE

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# Objective of the Rio+20 Conference *as decided by UNGA*

- Secure **renewed political commitment** for sustainable development
- Assess the **progress to date** and the remaining **gaps** in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development
- Address **new and emerging challenges**



# Themes of the Rio+20 Conference *as decided by UNGA*

- A **green economy** in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
- The **institutional framework** for sustainable development



# What is the **Green Economy**?

An economy that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.

It is an approach that integrates the environmental, social and economic pillars of sustainable development.

# TOWARDS A GREEN ECONOMY

Main challenge facing humanity now is to sustain the process of poverty eradication and SHIFT GEARS ! (UN Secretary-General Report, 2011)



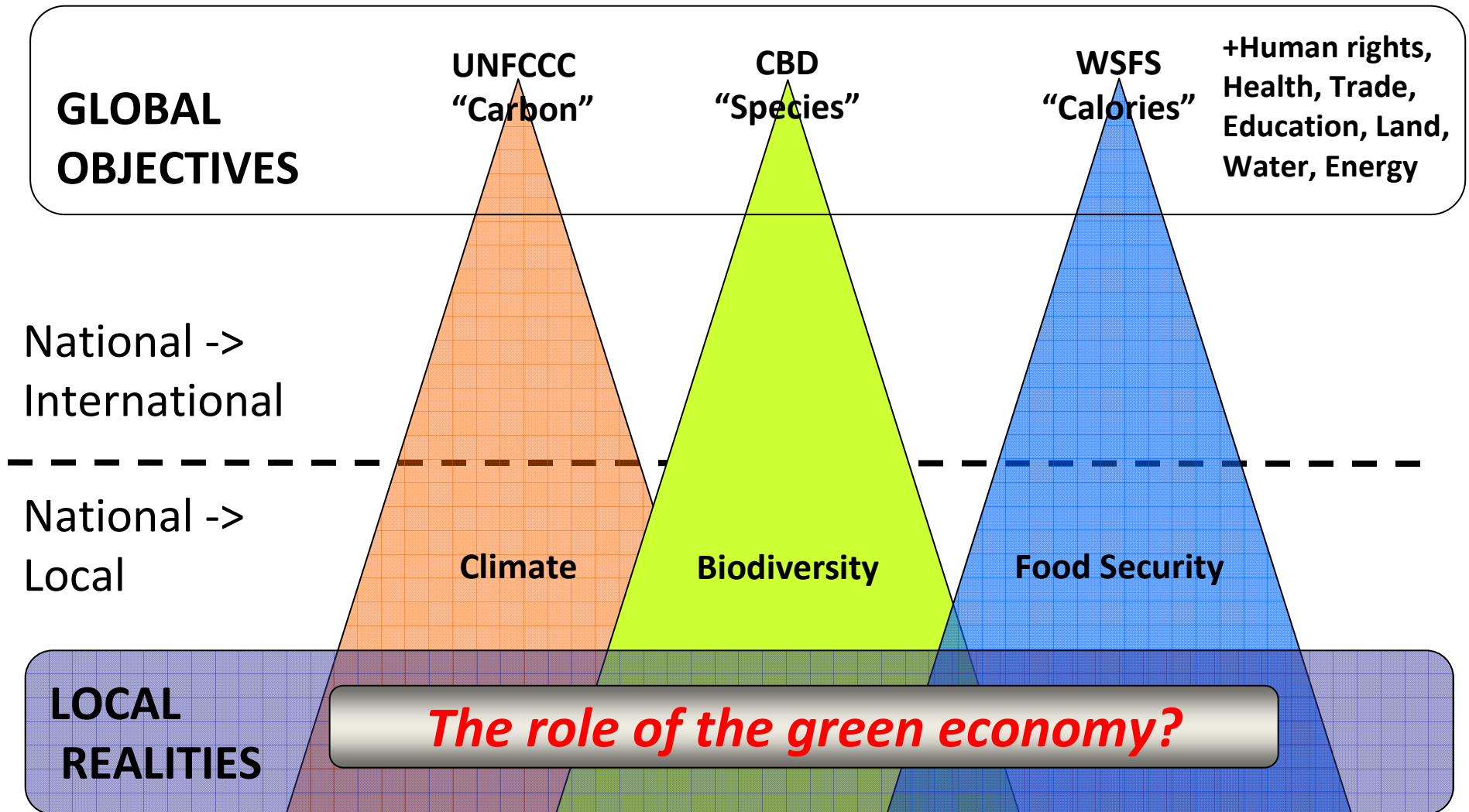
Developed countries must shrink environmental footprints as fast and as far as possible while sustaining human development achievements

SHARED CHALLENGE

SHARED PROSPERITY

Developing countries must continue to raise people's living standards while containing increases in footprints, recognizing that poverty eradication remains a priority.

# The Sustainable Development landscape



# And there are many development challenges !

- **Food** for 925 million hungry people
- **Clean and safe water:** 900 million people
- **Electricity:** 1.4 billion people without access
- **Modern fuels or technologies** for cooking/heating: 3 billion without access
- **Improved sanitation:** 2.6 billion people
- And....





FAO preparations for Rio+20:

Greening the Economy with Agriculture  
(GEA)



# WHAT IS GEA?

GEA refers to increasing food and nutrition security (in terms of food availability, access, stability and utilization) while using less natural resources, through improved efficiency, resilience and equity throughout the food value chain. GEA can take many forms and expressions ...

**GEA is a multi-dimensional concept  
encompassing all sustainability pillars**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
INTEGRITY**

**ECONOMIC  
RESILIENCE**

**SOCIAL  
WELLBEING**

**GOOD  
GOVERNANCE**

# GEA STUDIES

- 1. Availability:** Food availability and natural resources use in a green economy context
- 2. Access:** Decent rural livelihoods and rights in a green economy environment
- 3. Stability:** Stability of food security in a green economy environment
- 4. Utilization:** Improving food systems for sustainable diets in a green economy

# MAIN GEA MESSAGES

- No green economy without agriculture (which occupies 30% of land surface and 2.4 billion people)
- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries are key drivers in the transition towards a green economy and poverty reduction
- A well-managed agri-food sector is an important response to the imperatives of climate change, depletion of natural resources and alarming nutrition-related diseases
- Attention must also be paid to the Blue Economy, defined as sustainability and distributional equity of ocean resources
- Under the right circumstances, the agri-food sector generates innumerable global goods and services, including decent livelihoods and ecosystem services

# FAO @ RIO+20: INTERNAL PROCESS

FAO's contribution to Rio+20

FAO Council

*Rome, November 2011*

GEA Roadmap 2050

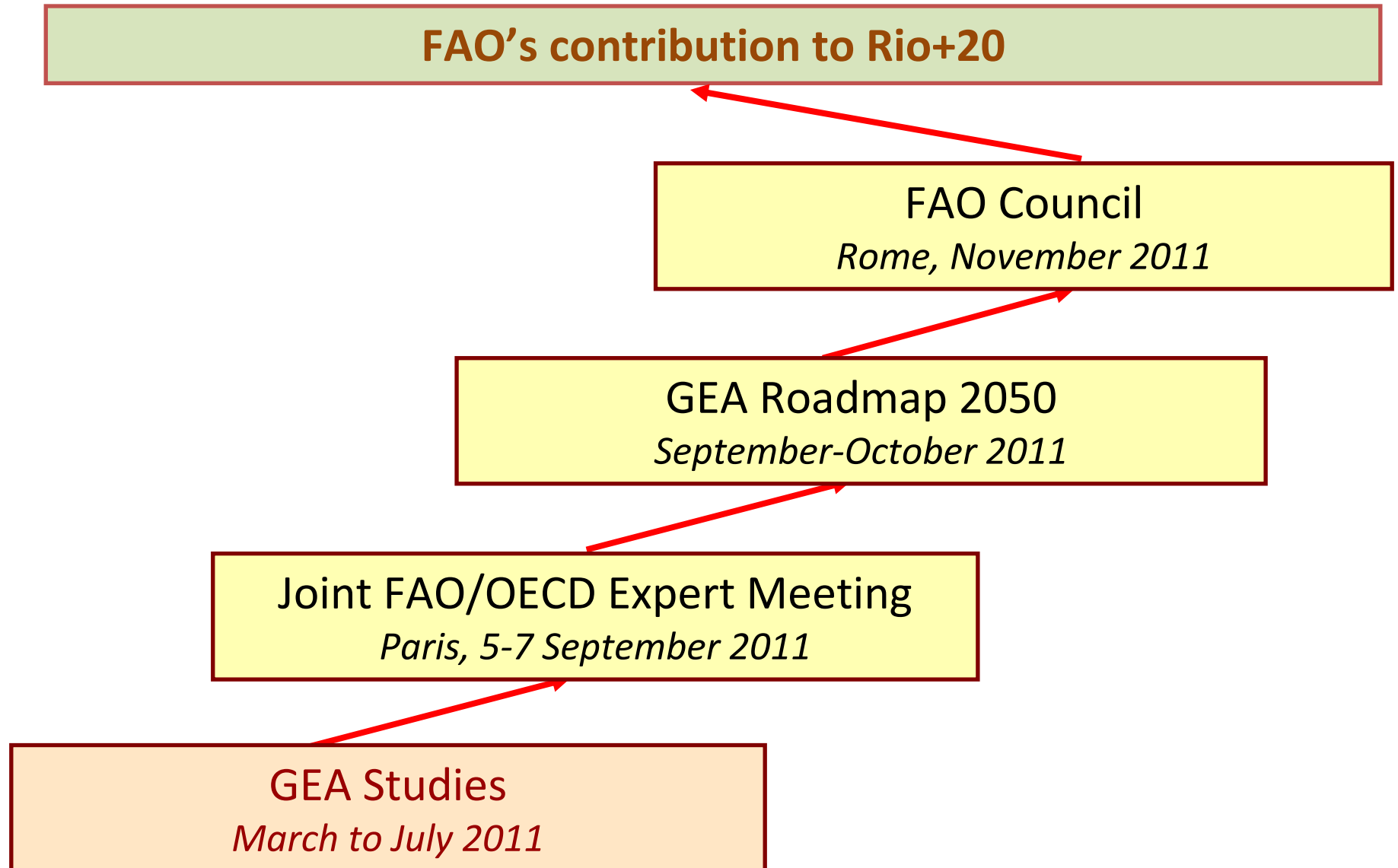
*September-October 2011*

Joint FAO/OECD Expert Meeting

*Paris, 5-7 September 2011*

GEA Studies

*March to July 2011*



# FAO @ RIO+20: EXTERNAL PROCESS

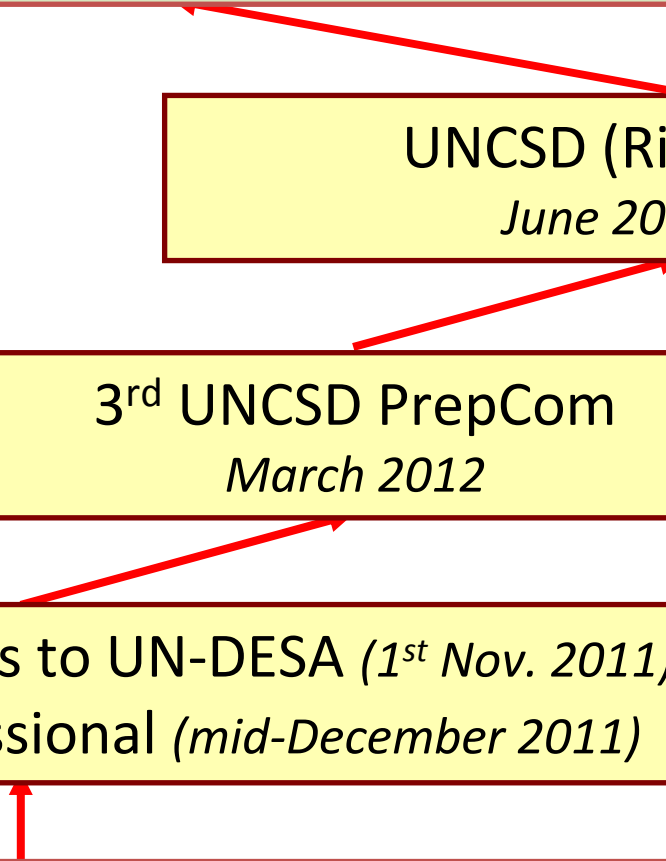
## IN-COUNTRY IMPLEMENTATION?

UNCSD (Rio+20)  
*June 2012*

3<sup>rd</sup> UNCSD PrepCom  
*March 2012*

FAO informal inputs to UN-DESA (*1<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2011*)  
*2<sup>nd</sup> UNCSD Inter-sessional (mid-December 2011)*

**FAO's contribution to Rio+20**  
**(communications, documents, side events)**





## Scope of the FAO/OECD Expert Meeting

- ✓ Exchange of expertise
- ✓ Collective thinking on GEA Working Documents
- ✓ Sound technical basis for the GEA agenda

(FAO will review the GEA documents after the Paris meeting)



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra



# Thanks

More information at:  
<http://www.fao.org/rio20>

