



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

MAINSTREAMING SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN EGYPT: A CASE STUDY

CHAMPIONING THE SDGs

In Egypt, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are increasingly shaping the national development plans. The Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt Vision 2030), devised in 2016 and implemented by the Ministry of Planning and Agriculture (MOPAR), is the main umbrella framework for the implementation of the SDGs.

Given the key role of food, agriculture and natural resource management in achieving the vision set out by the 2030 Agenda, efforts are being made to accelerate the transition to sustainable food and agriculture (SFA) systems, and ensure a coordinated approach to policy development and delivery of the expected targets.

WHY THE NEED FOR FAO'S INTERVENTION?

In early 2018, despite Egypt's efforts and commitment to the 2030 Agenda, a number of challenges still required action. The extent of the contribution that line ministries covering food and agriculture sectors can make in support of SDG implementation had not been fully considered. There was a particular need for greater awareness across all ministries and institutions in the areas of food and agriculture, water, trade, the environment and social protection.

RAISING AWARENESS, SUPPORTING POLICY-MAKING

Beginning in February, concrete action was taken to support stronger involvement of food and agriculture in Egypt's ongoing SDG process. The aim was to promote

cross-sectoral dialogue to enhance coordination and foster strong partnerships among line ministries in support of the 2030 Agenda.

In close collaboration with the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), which is the national office responsible for producing, monitoring and reviewing SDG-related data, a workshop for policy- and decision-makers on "Supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through sustainable food and agriculture" was held in June 2018, in Cairo.

The workshop brought together staff of the Ministries of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR), Planning and Agriculture Reform, Water Resources, Environment and counterparts including senior-level authorities, civil society representatives, research institutions, and other committed stakeholders.



©FAO/Kai Wiedenhofer

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

During the workshop, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) presented a set of tools to simplify the process of transitioning to sustainable agriculture: the SFA Guidelines and 20 interconnected actions, providing a concrete step-by-step guide to decision-makers for mainstreaming agriculture, forestry and fisheries into strategies and action plans for achieving the SDGs. As a practical complement to the SFA principles, the 20 actions are of value to all key players working to deliver the 2030 Agenda.



© FAO Soliman Ahmed

ACCELERATING PROGRESS: OUTCOMES OF THE INTERVENTION

The policy- and decision-maker workshop was timely in supporting Egypt's national efforts, and the country is currently in the forefront of advancing SDG implementation.

The workshop represented a first step towards establishing cross-sectoral dialogue, enhancing coordination among line ministries, and building alliances and partnerships for interlinked actions in food and agriculture in support of SDG achievement.

Key outcomes of the intervention include:

- The Agriculture Ministry (MALR) has started a revision of its National Agriculture Policy, with FAO participating in this review and providing necessary policy assistance upon request.

- Egypt is currently reviewing its Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt Vision 2030) to expand its coverage to some 27 sectors. The government has called for sectoral plans to be prepared for the national development plan, and a new round of consultations with the private sector, students and civil society are being held.
- In May 2019, through its Institute of National Planning, Egypt organized an international conference entitled "Promoting Sustainable Agriculture", championing the key role of agriculture in an integrated approach towards the achievement of the SDGs. FAO was invited and provided full support to the conference.

THE 5 PRINCIPLES OF SFA

1. increase productivity, employment and value addition in food systems;
2. protect and enhance natural resources;
3. improve livelihoods and foster inclusive economic growth;
4. enhance the resilience of people, communities and ecosystems;
5. adapt governance to new challenges.

FAO'S VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

A world where **food is nutritious and accessible for everyone**, in which natural resources are managed in a way that maintains ecosystem functions to support **current and future human needs**.

In this vision, **farmers, pastoralists, fisher-folk, foresters and other rural dwellers** actively participate in, and benefit from, economic development, have decent employment conditions and work in a **fair price environment**.

Women, men and communities live in food security, and have **control over their livelihoods** and **equitable access to resources** which they use in an efficient way.

To find out more about SFA visit:
www.fao.org/sustainability



Certains droits réservés. Ce(tte) œuvre est mise à disposition selon les termes de la licence CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO