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The Sustainable Development Goals and their implications for agriculture and rural development in Europe and Central Asia region

Executive Summary

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was launched at the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in October 2015. While the goals under the 2030 Agenda are universally applicable, it is expected national targets are determined in line with global targets. These should take into account different baseline conditions, capacities and levels of development, and national priorities. This paper discusses the linkage of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to challenges and drivers in the region, to kick-start discussion on regional and national targets.

The government authorities responsible for agriculture would have to take the lead in identifying national priorities for Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda and also have to play a part in determining national targets under goals 6, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15. Government authorities responsible for forestry would have to take the lead in determining national targets under Goal 15 and authorities responsible for the environment would have to take the lead in determining national targets under goals 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14. The different ministries would also need to ensure cross-sectoral dialogue, to guarantee integrated and comprehensive implementation of SDGs.

These targets would have to be incorporated into agricultural and rural development policies of member countries and harmonized with other policies and strategies complementing and strengthening efforts targeted to rural development and agriculture.

FAO remains committed to work with member countries to assist them in meeting SDGs targets in line with its Strategic Framework.

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Suggested actions to be approved by the Regional Conference

Take note of the broad alignment of the Organization's Strategic Framework with the Sustainable Development Goals set out in the Agenda 2030, and urge the Organization to continue focusing the implementation of the work on the country priorities in 2016-2017 and beyond, in line with the SDGs.

Call on FAO to support the countries, especially in the implementation of Agenda 2030 through capacity building and policy advice, in line with the FAO Country Programming Frameworks and its Strategic Objectives.

Take into consideration the suggestions provided in relation to the possible implications for governmental institutions responsible for agriculture, forestry and environment related to the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

I. Introduction

1. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, launched at the 70th session of the UN General Assembly in October 2015, is expected to guide development actions of governments, international agencies, civil society and other institutions over the next 15 years. The 2030 Agenda, shaped from multi-stakeholder discussions for over a year prior to its launch, is ambitious, universal, transformative and multidimensional.
2. Ending hunger and poverty and ensuring the sustainability of development are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda. Ensuring access to adequate, nutritious and safe food to a growing population is one of the most difficult challenges faced by the world today. Access to productive resources – land, nutrient-rich soils and water – is threatened not only by increasing competition for the use of these scarce resources but also by adverse long-term implications of climate change.
3. While the goals under the agenda are global and universally applicable, it is expected that individual countries will assess their priorities within the overall framework, and determine national targets in line with global targets. These should take into account different baseline conditions, capacities and levels of development, as well as national priorities.
4. The document is furthermore divided into three sections:
 - a) Section 2 of the paper shows how challenges and priorities of the Europe and Central Asia (EuCA) region, linked particularly to food security and nutrition and sustainable development of food systems, can be addressed through goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.
 - b) Section 3 of the paper discusses the alignment of FAO's Strategic Programme and the 2030 Agenda.
 - c) Section 4 discusses issues related to implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It identifies the commitments particularly of government institutions responsible for agriculture, forestry and the environment in identifying national priorities and their alignment with identified targets, programme implementation and monitoring of progress for the 2030 Agenda.

II. Regional Challenges, Drivers of Change and the 2030 Agenda

5. Within medium- and long-term priorities, FAO's work in EuCA¹ is expected to be driven by global and regional trends, resulting in specific regional challenges. Of particular importance are areas such as: a) rural livelihoods, migration and rural poverty; b) farm structure; c) sustainability of food production and food systems; d) food insecurity and malnutrition; and e) agricultural trade policy. The dimensions of these challenges in the region vary from country to country. However, the 17 SDGs and their applicable targets for the universal Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development will allow for them to be addressed. This section will show the linkages of the regional challenges and drivers with goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

Rural Livelihoods and Rural Poverty

6. The incidence of poverty varies considerably across countries of the region. While most countries in Europe have a low incidence of absolute poverty, the proportion of poor people in the population remains high in some countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In most of these countries a substantial share of the poor live in rural areas. In 2014 more than 62 percent of the poor in the countries of the region lived in rural areas.

7. Goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda deals with the eradication of poverty. Given that most of the poor live in rural areas, it is clear that this goal cannot be achieved without raising rural employment (Goal 8) and rural incomes (Goal 2, Target² 2.3). These would necessarily require raising agricultural productivity and incomes, and a significant expansion of rural non-farm employment. Expanding the reach of social protection systems to encompass rural populations is crucial not just for generating rural employment but also as a catalyst for growth in agriculture.

8. Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda deals specifically with issues related to employment and livelihoods. Agriculture is a major source of employment in many countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Balkans and Eastern Europe. In Georgia and Tajikistan, a majority of workers are engaged in agriculture. In Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, more than a third of employed persons are engaged in agriculture. In such countries, ensuring full employment, decent conditions of employment, and equality of wages would crucially depend on the development of agriculture as a sector, increasing its employment potential and improving employment conditions of workers engaged therein.

Farm structure

9. Smallholders and family farms account for a substantial share of the agricultural output in most parts of the region. Family farms co-exist with corporate farms and there are considerable subregional differences in the relative importance of different types of farms and productivity. About 97 percent of approximately 12 million farms in Europe (EU28) are family farms. In Central Asia, family farms account for over 70 per cent of agricultural land and produce almost 90 percent of agricultural output. In Russia and CIS countries, on the other hand, corporate farms predominate with family farms accounting for only about 34 percent of land.³

10. Goal 2, Target 2.3 calls for doubling agricultural productivity and incomes of smallholders by 2030. There is considerable scope for increasing agricultural productivity in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In particular, in comparison with other parts of the world, substantial increases in agricultural yields can be achieved. Recent assessments of yield gaps in agriculture show that with

¹ See more details in the document ERC/16/7 – *Priorities for FAO's work in the Europe and Central Asia Region*, discussed under agenda item 11 of the 30th Regional Conference for Europe

² In some cases, the goal itself (and all its targets) is relevant, while in other cases, one or two specific targets of a certain goal are relevant. Further details in this context are outlined in Annex II.

³ FAO (2014), *Deep Roots*, Rome.

sustainable intensification – increasing irrigation and nutrient application in areas with significant yield gaps while simultaneously reducing nutrient application in areas with excessive use – wheat production, for example, in Eastern Europe and Central Asia can be doubled.⁴ Doubling productivity and incomes of family farms in Eastern Europe and Central Asia is well within reach and would be crucial for global achievement of Target 2.3.⁵ Significant gains in incomes of small producers can also come about through improved distribution of revenue along the value chains.⁶ There is a need to increase access to services, knowledge, markets, inputs and financial resources for smallholders and family farms to increase their productivity and income.

Sustainability of food production and food systems

11. A key aim in the region is to achieve sustainable food production and food systems. A food system encompasses all elements and activities as they relate to production, processing, distribution and consumption of food. Its three dimensions include economic resilience, environmental integrity and social well-being.

12. Economic sustainability refers to sustainability of incomes and employment of food producers and workers engaged in food value chains, and reduction of losses and waste in food systems. Changes in patterns of demand for food as well as changes in production and distribution systems present both challenges and opportunities for strengthening the economic pillar of sustainability of food systems. Goal 2, Target 2.3 deals with raising incomes of small-scale food producers and Goal 12, Target 12.3⁷ aims at reducing losses and waste in the food system.

13. Social sustainability refers to ensuring fundamental rights and decent livelihoods for people engaged in food systems. These dimensions are covered under Goal 8, Targets 8.5⁸ and 8.7⁹. Target 8.5 calls for achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all. Target 8.7 calls for eradication of forced labour, slavery and human trafficking.

14. Environmental sustainability refers to sustainable use of natural resources and minimization of adverse anthropogenic environmental impact. Goal 2, Targets 2.4¹⁰ (sustainable food production) and 2.5¹¹ (biodiversity), Goal 6, Target 6¹² (water use efficiency), Goal 12, Targets 12.1 (sustainable

⁴ Mueller, Nathaniel D., Gerber, James S., Johnston, Matt, Ray, Deepak K., Ramankutty, N. & Foley, Jonathan A. (2012). Closing yield gaps through nutrient and water management. *Nature*, 490 (7419), pp. 254–257; Pradhan, Prajal, Fischer, Gunther, van Velthuizen, Harrij, Reusser, Dominik E. & Kropp, Juergen P. (2015). Closing Yield Gaps: How Sustainable Can We Be? *PLOS ONE*, 10(6) p. e0129487. (<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0129487>)

⁵ SDG Target 2.3. By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

⁶ FAO (2014). *Developing sustainable food value chains – Guiding principles*, Rome.

⁷ SDG Target 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.

⁸ SDG Target 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

⁹ SDG Target 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

¹⁰ SDG Target 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

¹¹ SDG Target 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.

¹² SDG Target 6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.

production and consumption),¹³ 12.2 (sustainable use of natural resources),¹⁴ and various targets under Goal 13 (climate change), Goal 14 (oceans and marine resources) and Goal 15 (forests and land), deal with various aspects of environmental sustainability in food systems.

15. Goal 13 of the 2030 Agenda covers climate change and its impact, with explicit reference to the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 2015 United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP21). Globally, climate change is expected to result in increased frequency of heat stress and extreme weather. While farmers are already facing some climate variability and its impacts, these are expected to intensify in the coming decades.

16. Climate change has been manifesting itself in the region through an increased number of extreme weather events and natural hazards, such as floods, droughts and landslides, which lead to/result in changes in water-resources availability, natural-resources degradation and loss of biodiversity. Average temperatures across EuCA countries have already increased by 0.5 °C in the South and 1.6 °C in the North of the region since the early 1990s. Further increases by up to 2.6 °C are expected by 2050 across EuCA countries. With a large share of livestock in regional agricultural output, agriculture in the EuCA region also makes a significant contribution to emissions of greenhouse gases.

17. The sustainable use of natural resources is a major challenge for agricultural production in the EuCA region, and in many countries industrial agriculture, with high and unsustainable levels of resources use, dominates food production. The sustainability of resources use is an important issue in such countries. It is necessary that member countries assess dimensions of sustainability that are most relevant for them, and adequately measure their development.

Box 1: The Vision of Sustainability in Food and Agriculture

Sustainability is at the core of the 2030 Development Agenda, as it is with FAO's Strategic Framework. FAO has been the leader in defining concepts, setting standards and promoting international agreements, policies, strategies and practices for sustainable development of food systems. The vision of sustainability in the context of food and agriculture was presented in the 2014 document, *Building a Common Vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture*, which identifies five key principles¹⁵ for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries:

- Efficiency in the use of resources
- Conservation, protection and enhancement of natural resources
- Protection and improving rural livelihoods, equity and social well-being
- Resilience of people, communities and ecosystems
- Responsible and effective governance mechanisms

18. Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda summarises key developmental aspirations in respect of oceans, seas and marine resources. The European Union countries together constitute the largest market in the world for imports of fish and fishery products, accounting for about 36 percent of total world imports in 2012. The latest estimates put the fish supply in the EuCA region at about 15 million tonnes.¹⁶ Policy initiatives by the European Union have resulted in reduction of fishing rates and have

¹³ SDG Target 12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.

¹⁴ SDG Target 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

¹⁵ Building a common vision for sustainable food and agriculture, FAO 2014 www.fao.org/3/919235b7-4553-4a4a-bf38-a76797dc5b23/i3940e.pdf,

¹⁶ There is some variation in estimates of fish production supply from different sources. Latest estimates of fish supply from IFPRI's IMPACT model for 2008 put the fish supply for EuCA region at 14.5 million tonnes. FAO's Fish Model puts the level of combined production from fisheries and aquaculture for Europe alone at 18.6 million tonnes in 2010-12. See FAO (2014), *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture*. Rome.

contributed to increased abundance of fish stocks. Aligning national policies with various targets under Goal 14 would help to ensure that the region uses marine resources sustainably.

19. Many European countries have already amended their national forestry policies to prioritize Sustainable Forest Management. Recognizing the importance of forests for rural development, biodiversity, forest-based industries, bioenergy and climate change, the European Union adopted a comprehensive Forestry Strategy in 2013 focusing on Sustainable Forest Management.¹⁷ The EU experience of expanding sustainable forest management practices through a comprehensive forestry strategy is a valuable guide for other parts of the region.

20. Goal 15, Target 15.3 of the 2030 Agenda sets the aspirations regarding land degradation, a problem that affects large parts of the EuCA region. It has been estimated that 40-60 percent of irrigated areas in Central Asia are affected by salinization. Wind erosion and soil fertility depletion are the major problems of rainfed areas in Central Asia. The annual cost of land degradation in Central Asia has been estimated at about USD 6 billion.¹⁸ Dealing with land degradation in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Caucasus and Central Asia requires targeted investment and technical support for improving land and water management practices.

Food security and malnutrition

21. Prevalence of undernourishment is relatively low in the region.¹⁹ However, specific population groups remain vulnerable to food insecurity in some countries. A prolonged economic crisis and high unemployment in the region have had an adverse impact on access to food. In 2015 over a million migrants and refugees entered Europe. Uprooted by war and loss of their livelihoods, most of these migrants remain in particularly vulnerable situations in terms of food insecurity. Target 2.1²⁰ calls for ending hunger and to ensure that everyone has access to “safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round”.

22. Out of various dimensions of malnutrition, dealing with obesity will be the most important challenge in the region. Most countries in the region have very high incidence of, and an alarming rate of increase in obesity.²¹ Countries in the region also have significant incidence of micronutrient deficiencies.²² Despite a substantial decline between 2000 and 2015, when the Millennium Development Goals guided the global agenda, child malnutrition continues to be an important problem in some countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Balkans. In addition to lifestyle changes, improving diet quality – reducing the intake of high-energy processed foods and increasing the intake of foods with low-energy density but high nutrient content – will be critical for reducing the prevalence of obesity. The Rome Declaration on Nutrition, adopted in the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), gives a clear direction in this regard: “Nutrition policies should promote a diversified, balanced and healthy diet at all stages of life. Healthy diets should be fostered in preschools, schools, public institutions, at the workplace and at home, as well as healthy eating by

¹⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/forest/strategy/index_en.htm

¹⁸ Nkonya, Ephraim, Mirzabaev, Alisher & von Braun, Joachim, eds. (2016), *Economics of Land Degradation and Improvement: A Global Assessment for Sustainable Development*, Springer Open Access.

¹⁹ Tajikistan is the only country in the region with a high prevalence (33 percent in 2014-16) of undernourishment.

²⁰ SDG Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

²¹ With 23 percent of obese adults in 2014, Europe was second only to the Americas (26.8 percent) in prevalence of obesity among adults. Within countries of the EuCA region, the United Kingdom has the highest rates of obesity among men (26.9 percent); Turkey has the highest rates of obesity among women (35.8 percent). In most countries of the region, rates of obesity among men and women (aged 18 years and above) are above 20 percent. Data also show very high rates of child obesity in countries of the region.

²² In Uzbekistan, 52 percent of women aged 15-49 years suffer from anaemia. In Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan, 32 percent of women in the age group 15-49 years suffer from anaemia. WHO’s Global Database on Iodine Deficiency suggests that over half of Europe’s population consumes insufficient quantities of iodine. (www.who.int/nutrition/publications/micronutrients/FNBvol29N3sep08.pdf?ua=1)

families.” The challenge in this context is linked to Goal 2, Target 2.2,²³ which calls for ending all forms of malnutrition.

Trade

23. As pointed out in the paper on regional priorities, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTAs), and further enlargement of the EU are expected to bring about more trade and economic integration in the region. Greater trade integration has been associated with reduction of trade barriers (including elimination of tariffs and quotas for agricultural products across many national boundaries in the region) as well as better alignment of standards and legislative framework.

24. Trade appears as an important means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Goal 2, Target 2.b calls for preventing trade restrictions and correcting distortions in world agricultural markets, and for elimination of all forms of export subsidies. Goal 14, Target 14.6 calls for prohibition of subsidies which contribute to overfishing and subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Trade appears very prominently under Goal 17, which deals with means of implementation. Goal 17, Target 17.10 calls for promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system.

III. FAO’s Strategic Framework and the SDGs

25. Elimination of hunger and malnutrition and sustainable development of agriculture and food systems are at the heart of FAO’s Strategic Framework. Elimination of poverty and hunger and sustainability of development are also at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The overlap between FAO’s Strategic Framework and the Post-2015 Development Agenda is a result of the close relationship between FAO’s member countries and the Organization; while the former have guided the evolution of FAO’s Strategic Framework, FAO’s technical support to member countries in the process of negotiation of the Post-2015 Agenda had a significant influence on the shape of the SDGs. As a result of this close relationship and support, the five Strategic Programmes identified under FAO’s Strategic Framework have crucial linkages with all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Box 2: FAO’s Strategic Objectives (SOs)

SO1: Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition

SO2: Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner

SO3: Reduce rural poverty

SO4: Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels

SO5: Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises

26. Given the complexity of development problems, the SDG agenda as well as FAO’s Strategic Objectives are multidimensional and complex. While in some cases it is possible to identify primary linkages between individual SOs and individual SDG targets, most of the work undertaken under each SO is related to multiple SDG targets. An internal assessment of linkages between SOs and SDGs identifies that while FAO’s SOs are linked to all the SDGs, the linkages are strongest with SDGs 1, 2, 8, 12, 14 and 15.

²³ SDG Target 2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

In the European and Central Asia Region the work programme for 2016-17, as outlined in the priority document for 2016-17, is linked to support SDG implementation at country level. Particularly the Regional Initiative 1 – Empowering Smallholders and Family Farms for Improved Rural Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction, as well as Regional Initiative 2 – Agrifood Trade and Market Integration will be important delivery mechanisms to support particularly Goals 2, 6, 8, 12, as well as 14 and 16 respectively.

IV. Implementation of the SDGs in the Region: Role of Ministries of Agriculture, Forestry and Environment

27. The 2030 Agenda is an overarching development agenda to bring together actions of national governments, national, regional and global development agencies, civil society and the private sector. National governments took the lead in formulation of the 2030 Agenda and are expected to take the lead in defining national targets in line with global targets and in view of the country- and region-specific conditions. Governments are also expected to take the lead in formulating national strategies, policies and programmes for achieving these targets.

28. With food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture placed prominently and centrally on the Agenda, member countries' government institutions for agriculture, forestry and the environment will have an important role in determining national and regional targets, formulating national and regional strategies and policies, implementing programmes and projects and monitoring progress.

Determining national targets

29. Since the 2030 Agenda came into effect on 1 January 2015 it is now time for identification of national targets. While the 2030 Agenda provides global goals and targets, it is expected that member countries and organizations make assessments of the national potential to contribute to each goal and target. This would have to take into account existing baseline conditions as well as the potential extent of development that can be achieved in each country/region. It is important that regional and national targets be as ambitious and comprehensive as the global 2030 Agenda but at the same time it is essential to take into consideration the specific regional and national conditions, these be identified as soon as possible, in order to ensure that national targets meet with the global ambition.

30. Government authorities responsible for agriculture would have to take the lead in formulating priorities for Goal 2 under the 2030 Agenda. These authorities would also have to play a part in determining national targets under Goals 6, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 15, while the authorities responsible for forestry would have to take the lead in determining national targets under Goal 15. Government authorities responsible for the environment would have to take the lead in determining national targets under Goals 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14. Cross-sectoral dialogue between different ministries to ensure integrated and comprehensive implementation of SDGs will also be essential for achieving the set goals.

Formulating national and regional strategies and plans, and implementing programmes and recommendations

31. Given the ambitious and comprehensive nature of the 2030 Agenda, it is expected that all ministries and institutions of national governments will need to align their policies and programmes, and integrate SDG targets into these.

32. These strategies and plans will need to assess budgetary requirements and consider options for mobilization of resources. National budgetary allocations would have to take these strategies and plans into account.

33. Implementation of programmes and projects would clearly be the most important form of engagement not just for governments but also for all development partners during the entire period of the 2030 Agenda.

34. Governments may also establish coordination mechanisms and further build capacities for formulation, management and monitoring of the SDGs.

35. Collaboration at the regional level – for exchange of best practices, capacity-building, and for building partnerships to deal with shared priorities – can be crucial for translating goals and targets into effective policy guidelines. Regional collaboration can be particularly crucial for dealing with transboundary issues since these have to be dealt with through international agreements, policies and plans.

36. A close overlap between FAO's SOs, the relevant regional priorities, regional initiatives and the 2030 Agenda means that all projects and programmes implemented by FAO over the next 15 years need to be well-aligned to national and regional priorities under the 2030 Agenda in order to support member countries of the region in achieving the goals and targets.

37. The FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF) and the contribution of FAO to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) at the country level will be important tools to support, on the one hand, the identification of the national and regional targets and, on the other, defining the contributions to achieve national goals and targets. Timely identification of national and regional targets would make it possible to integrate them into the formulation and revision of the CPF.

Monitoring progress

38. Countries and regions need to develop a monitoring framework for country and regional assessment of national targets. These require identification of national and the regional indicators, in line with national and regional targets, on the one hand, and global indicators and the monitoring framework, on the other.

39. Monitoring and review at regional level would be crucial as a link between national and global monitoring.²⁴ Regular review and monitoring are not merely exercises in identifying gaps and obligations but are also a way of identifying best practices and revealing opportunities for collaboration.

40. It is important to underscore that multi-stakeholder participation and transparency would be crucial not only for effective monitoring but also for creating a sense of ownership. It is therefore important to engage various stakeholders in the process of review and monitoring at national and regional levels.

41. It is expected that, while the UN specialized agencies would provide technical support and help to establish monitoring standards, monitoring would be decentralized to some extent. In particular, national statistical systems would have to be strengthened considerably to generate and report data for national, regional and global monitoring.

42. Given considerable existing capacity in the area of statistical reporting, EU could assist countries of other subregions by helping to establish standards and best practices, and by sharing infrastructure for compiling and reporting statistics. Given similar agroclimatic and socio-economic conditions, there is also considerable scope for collaboration among countries of each subregion in developing common indicators and monitoring systems. Such collaboration would be mutually beneficial to all countries in each subregion.

²⁴ Regional Ministerial Consultation on Monitoring and Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda, (www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/post2015/FINAL_Chair_s_summary_0910.pdf)

43. The process of determining national and regional targets, formulation of national and regional strategies and plans, their implementation, and monitoring progress will be led by the countries. At the same time, to effectively support implementation of the 2030 Agenda, UN agencies will need to plan consistently with, and manage for results review and align their results frameworks and priorities with the 2030 Agenda. Country support for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring will have to be enhanced, since UN agencies will need to better respond to country needs. FAO's Strategic Framework, aimed at improving delivery and impact of its work, is well-aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

Annex I

Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Annex II

Regional Drivers and their manifestations in the Sustainable Development Goals

Regional Drivers	Sustainable Development Goal	Relevant Targets
Rural livelihoods, migration and rural poverty	Goal 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere	All Targets
	Goal 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Target 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment
	Goal 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	All Targets, in particular, Target 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
Farm Structure	Goal 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Target 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

Sustainability of food production and food systems	<p>Goal 2</p> <p>End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>	<p>Target 2.4</p> <p>By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality</p> <p>Target 2.5</p> <p>By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed</p>
	<p>Goal 6</p> <p>Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>	<p>Target 6.4</p> <p>By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</p>
	<p>Goal 8</p> <p>Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p>	<p>Target 8.5</p> <p>By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value</p> <p>Target 8.7</p> <p>Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms</p>

Sustainability of food production and food systems	Goal 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	Target 12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries Target 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources Target 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
	Goal 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	All Targets
	Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	All Targets
	Goal 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	All Targets

Food security and malnutrition	Goal 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round Target 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons
Trade	Goal 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Target 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect
	Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	Target 14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
	Goal 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	Target 17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda