



# E-agriculture Strategy

*- The need for developing national e-agriculture strategies -*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Presented at



# Challenges facing agriculture

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*Access to nutritious food - no malnutrition*

*Sustainable Farming*



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*Crop Intensification*

*food loss and waste*

*A world without hunger*

*More crop per drop*

*Safe food*

*Drought*

*Climate smart agriculture*

*Sustainable Livelihoods*

*Disaster preparedness*

*Loss of arable land*

*Floods*



© www.agriculturesnetwork.org

*Pest & Disease*

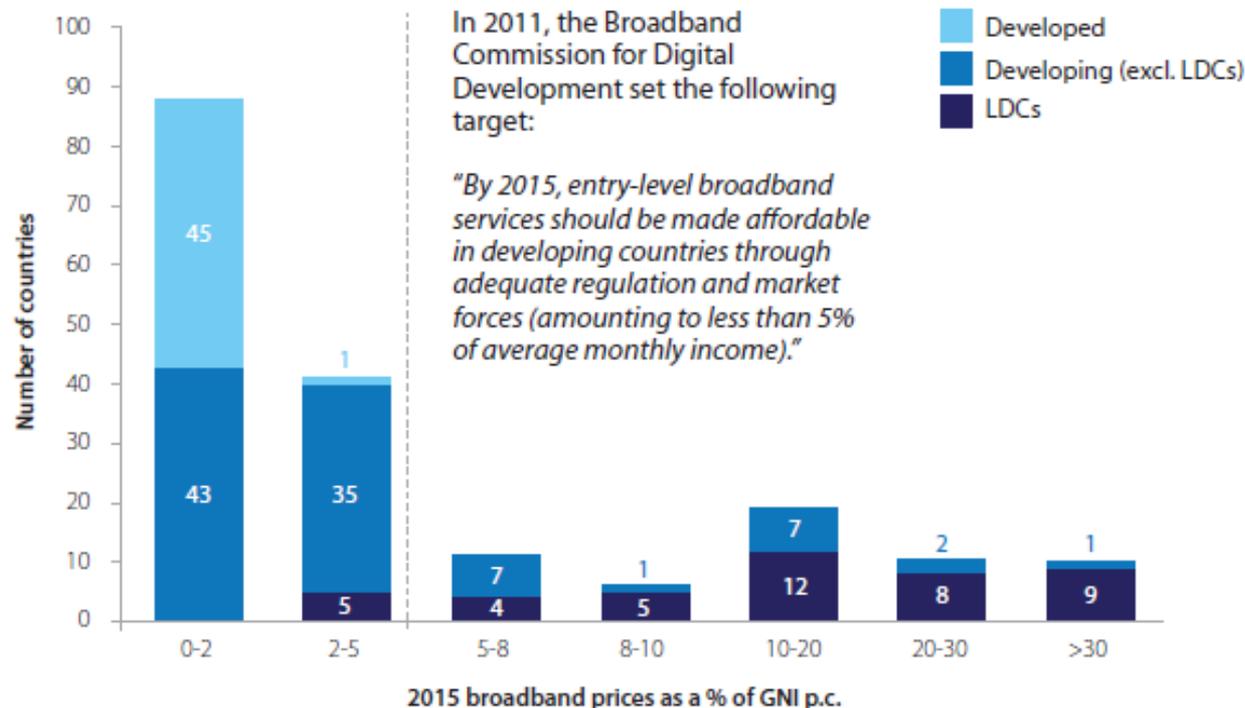
*Loss of biodiversity*



© www.ong2zero.org

# ICT prices are dropping significantly

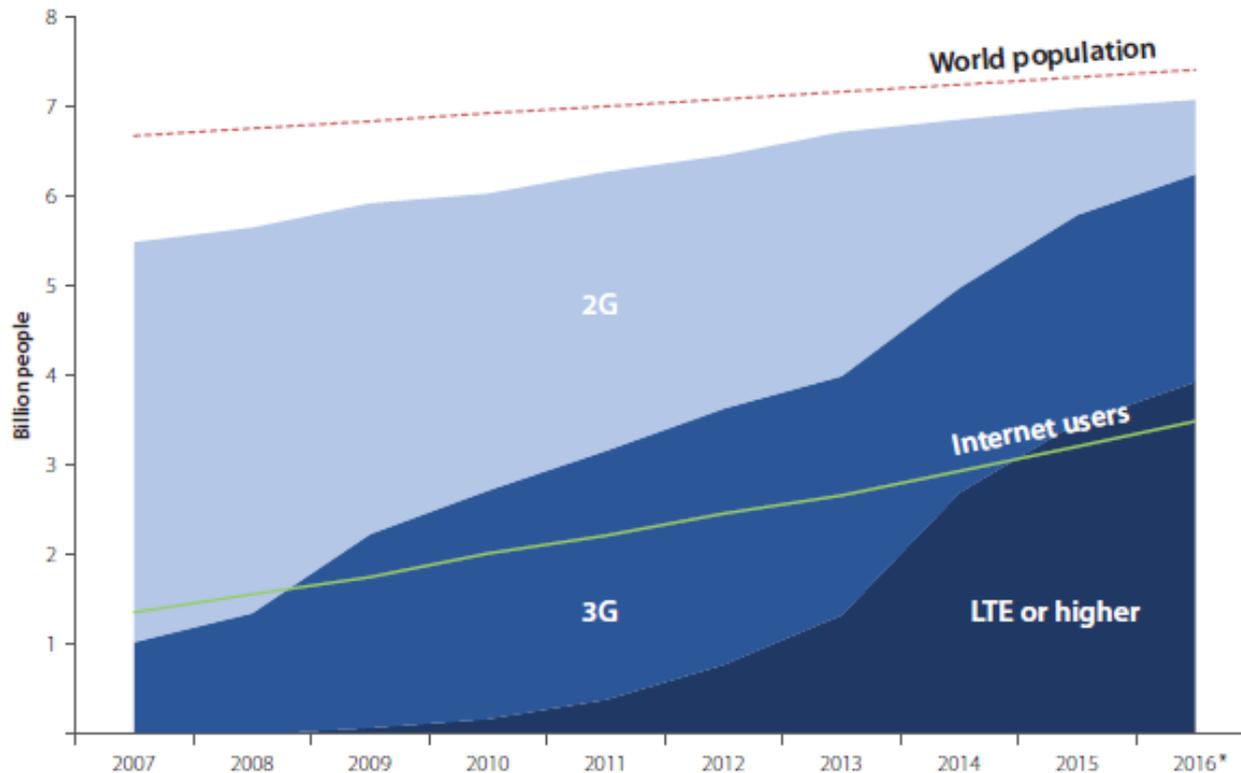
**By end 2015, 83 developing countries had achieved the Broadband Commission's affordability target**



Five LDCs achieved the Broadband Commission target, but in the majority of the world's poorest countries broadband remains unaffordable.

Source: ITU. Note: Broadband prices refer to the most affordable service: either fixed or mobile broadband.

# Mobile broadband is rapidly expanding



Seven billion people (95% of the global population) live in an area that is covered by a mobile-cellular network.

Mobile-broadband networks (3G or above) reach 84% of the global population but only 67% of the rural population.

LTE networks have spread quickly over the last three years and reach almost 4 billion people today (53% of the global population), enhancing the quality of Internet use.

Source: ITU.

Note: \* Estimates. Mobile network coverage refers to the population that is covered by a mobile network.

# Leveraging ICT development in other sectors for agriculture



Emergency



Education



Health



Agriculture



Investment



Applications



Policy & Regulation



Governance



Sensor Networks



Universal Broadband



Green ICT & E-Waste



Capacity Building



Transport



Measurements



Electricity



Infrastructure Security



Privacy & Security



Water



Digital Inclusion



Spectrum Management



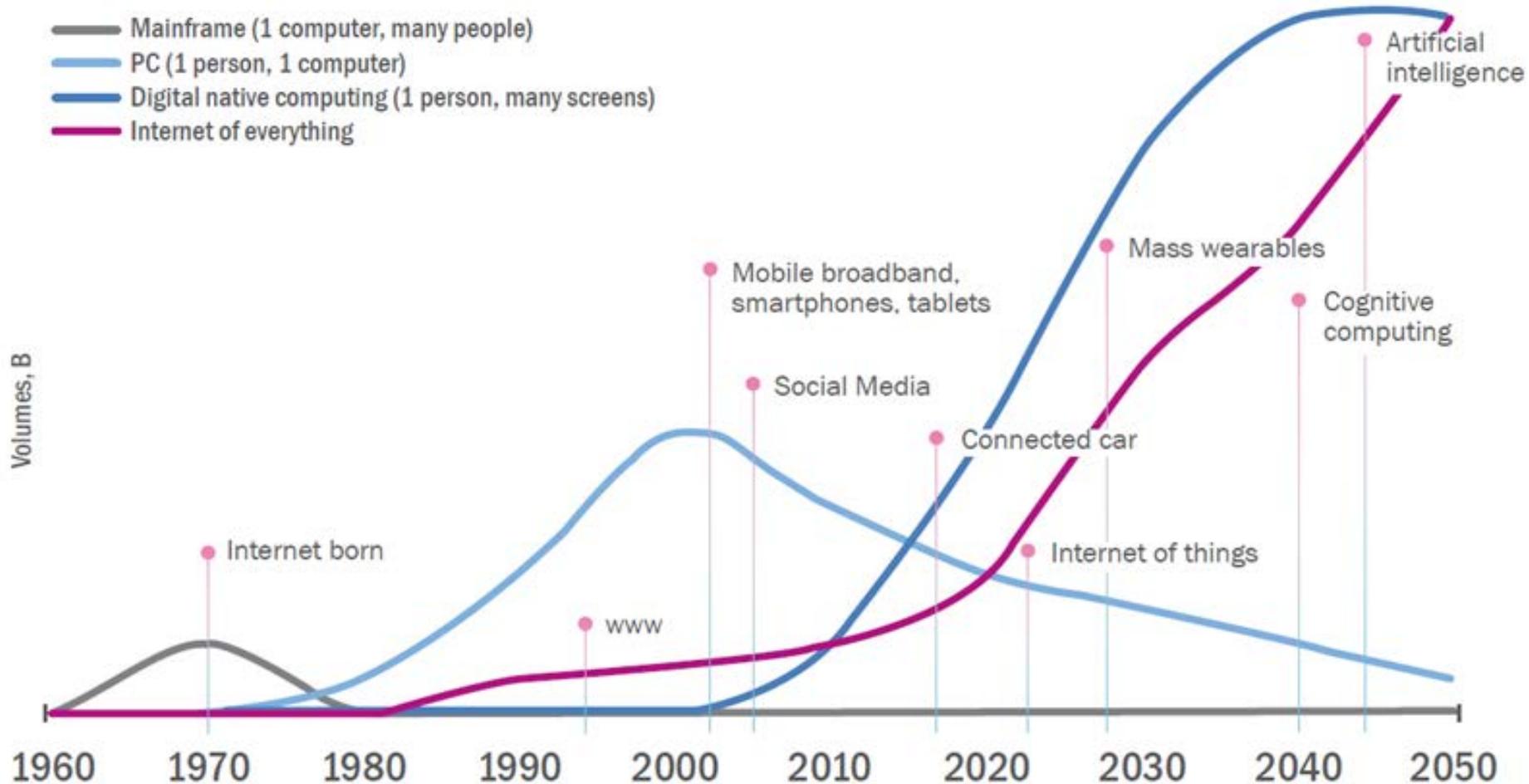
Standards, Conformity & Interoperability



Teleworking

# A more connected future....

## One to many to any: ICTs from happy few to the masses



# What is e-agriculture?

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- an emerging field focusing on the **enhancement of agricultural and rural development** through improved information and communication processes.
- involves the conceptualization, design, development, evaluation and application of **innovative ways to use ICT in the rural domain**, with a primary focus on agriculture.
- Includes standards, norms, methodologies, tools, development of individual and institutional capacities, and policy support are all key components



# ICT in agriculture



## Precision Agriculture

- \* Sensor networks
- \* Drones, UAVs, GIS mapping
- \* Internet of Things (IoT)



## Big Data, Cloud Computing & Connected Networks



## Reliable, hyper-local weather data

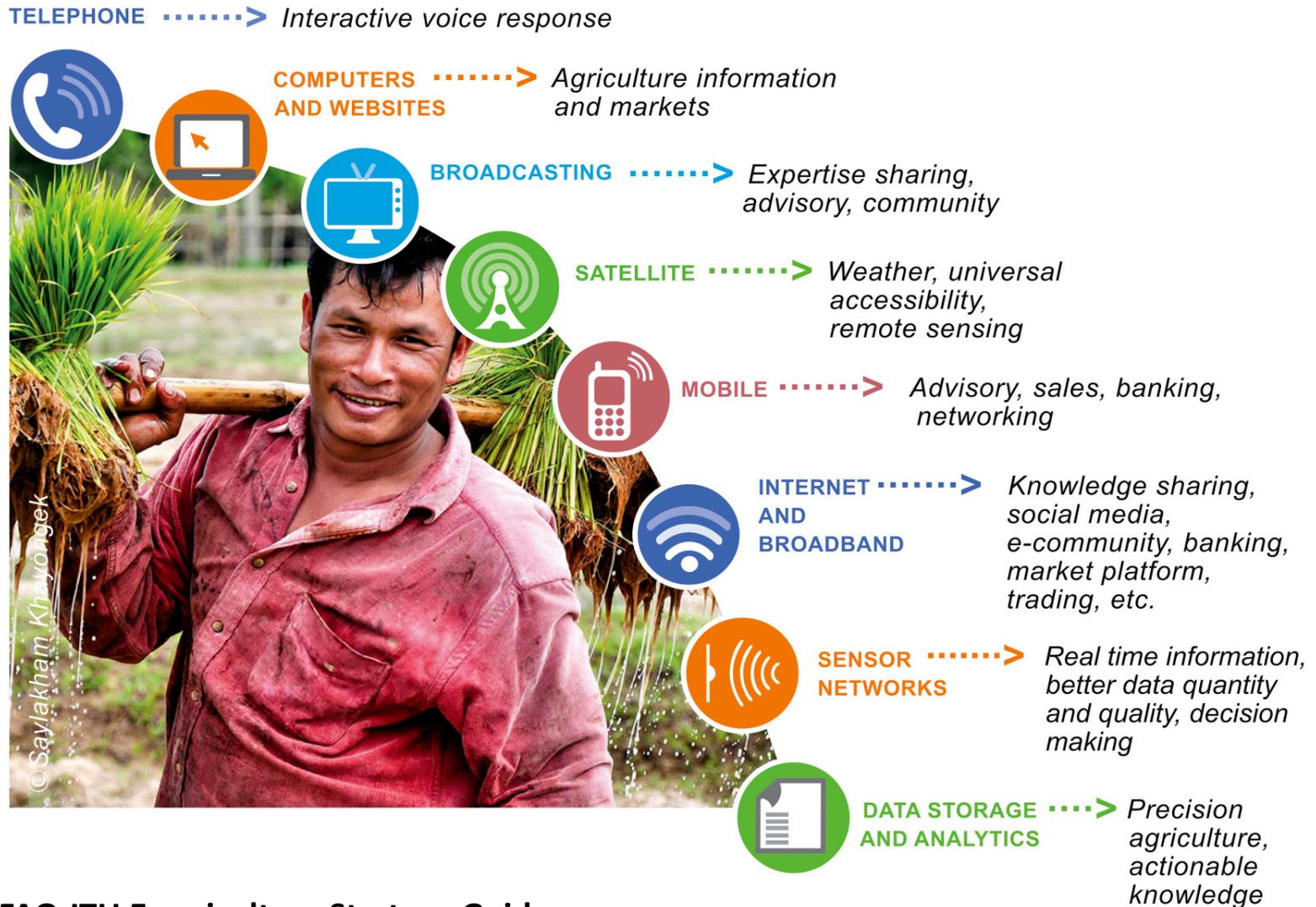
- *agri. advisories, insurance,  
etc.,*

## *3D food printing*



*NASA's food in space*

# ICT and agriculture application trends



Source: FAO-ITU E-agriculture Strategy Guide

*ICTs assist with implementing regulatory policies, frameworks and ways to monitor progress.*

*ICTs bridge the gap between agricultural researchers, extension agents and farmers thereby enhancing agricultural production.*

*ICTs widen the reach of local communities, including women and youth, and provide newer business opportunities, thereby enhancing livelihoods.*

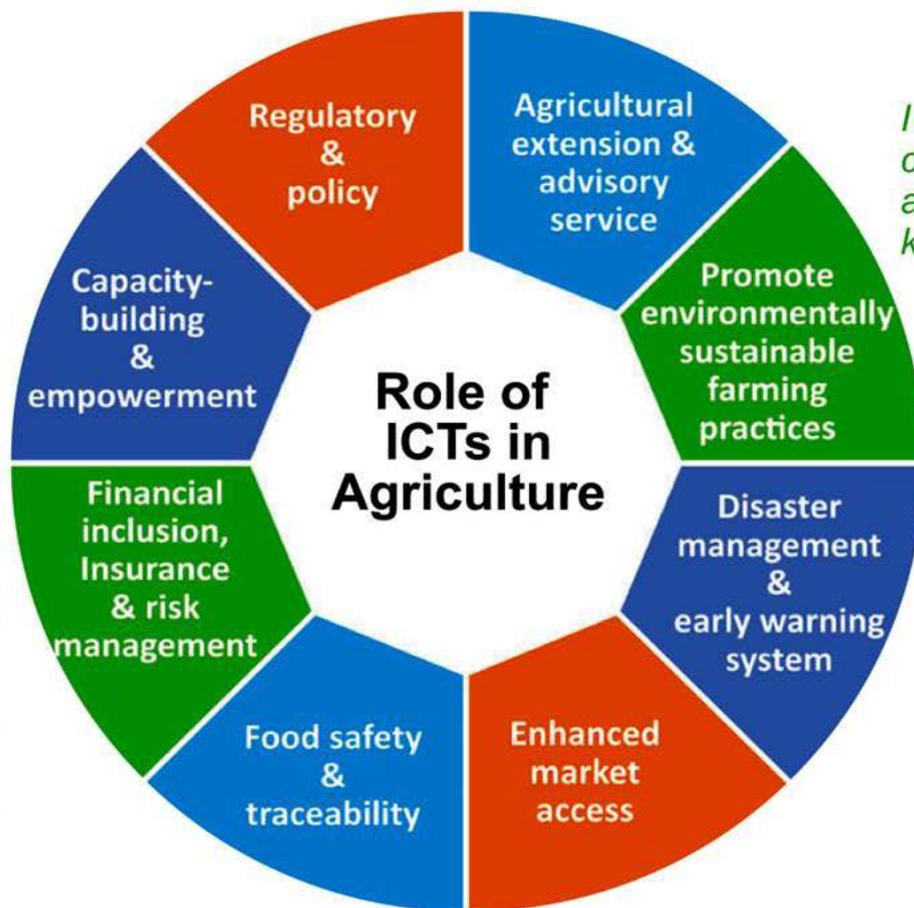
*ICTs improve access to climate-smart solutions as well as appropriate knowledge to use them.*

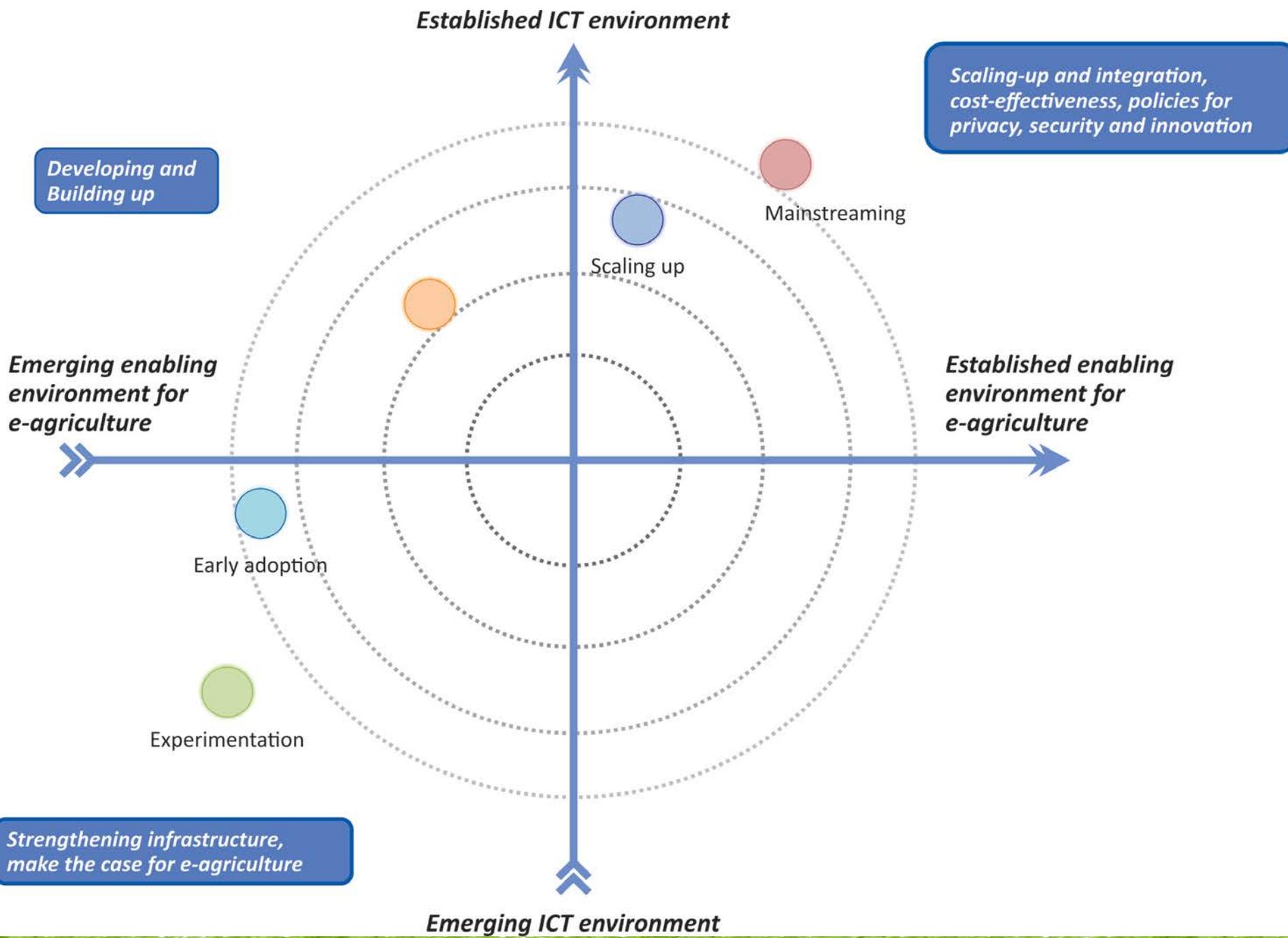
*ICTs increase access to financial services for rural communities, helping to secure savings, find affordable insurance and tools to better manage risk.*

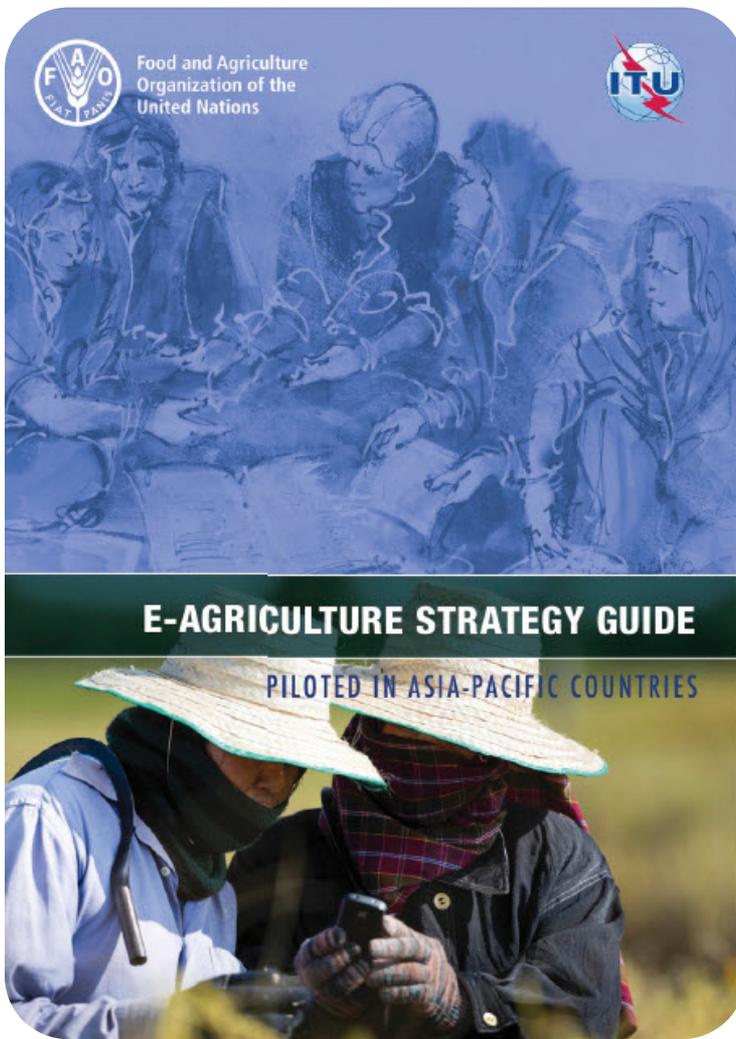
*ICTs provide actionable information to communities and governments on disaster prevention, in real-time, while also providing advice on risk-mitigation techniques.*

*ICTs help deliver more efficient and reliable data to comply with international traceability standards.*

*ICTs facilitate market access for inputs as well as product marketing and trade in a variety of ways.*







FAO-ITU

# E-agriculture Strategy Guide

*Available online!*

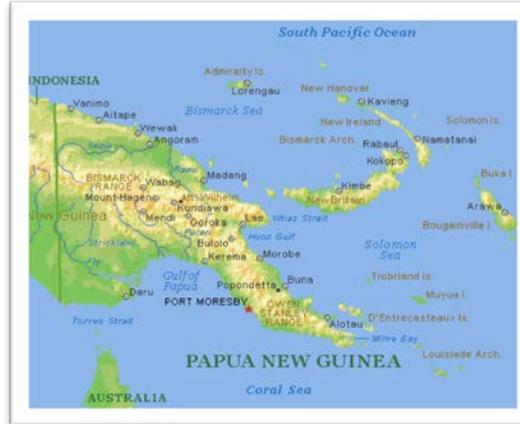
<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5564e.pdf>

# Why an E-agriculture Strategy

Ministry of  
Agriculture (MoA)

Agriculture  
Policy

Department of  
Agriculture, Livestock,  
Fisheries, Forestry



National  
E-agriculture  
Strategy

Ministry of  
Communication & IT,  
Regulator

IT/Digital  
eGov Policy

Department of Telecom,  
IT, Regulator, e-Gov  
agency

A guiding framework to develop  
sustainable national e-agriculture  
services/solutions



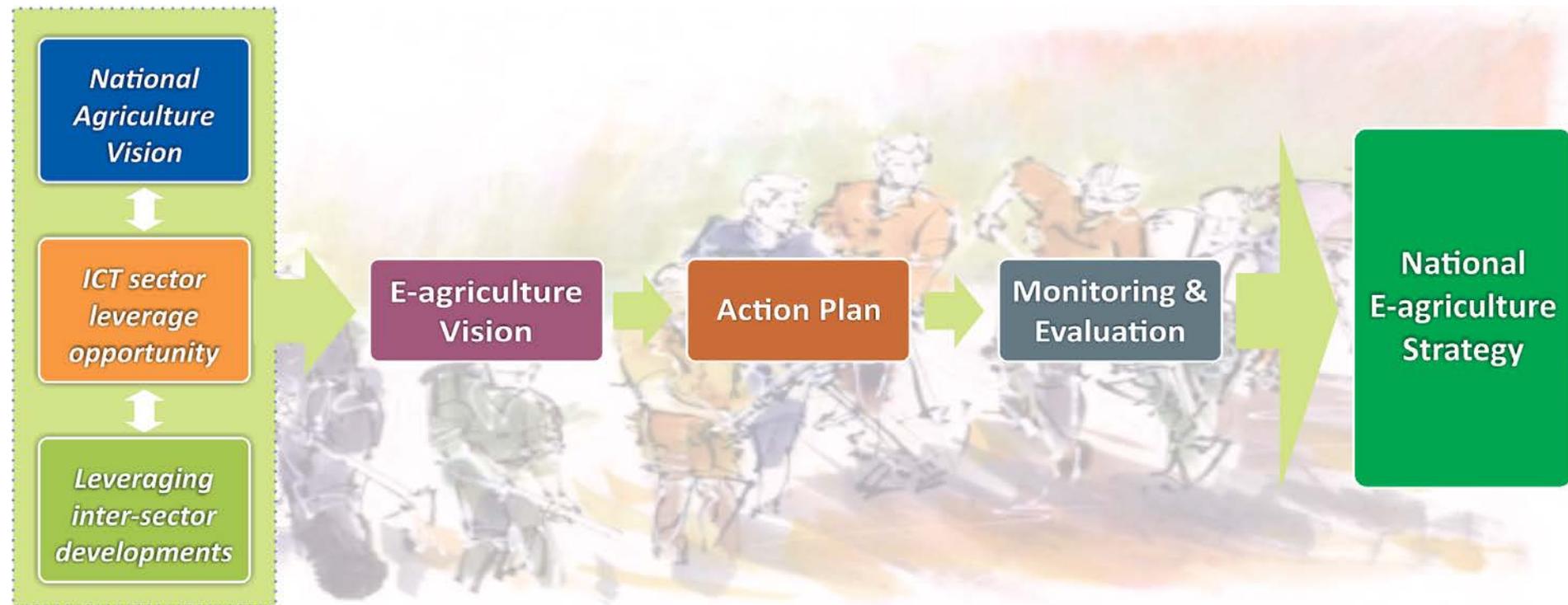
*Technical assistance to countries in developing their*  
**National E-Agriculture Strategy**

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- *Pilot* Bhutan and Sri Lanka
- *ICT strategy* Lao PDR
- *2016-2017* – Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Vanuatu



# Developing the National E-Agriculture Strategy



# Approach

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Agriculture  
Goals

Priorities

Challenges

ICT  
solutions

Agriculture  
Goals

E-agriculture  
vision

Expected  
Outcomes

ICT solutions

# ACTION PLAN EXAMPLE

Table 2.4.2. Sample e-agriculture action plan

Action Plan in Phases (Outputs and Activities)	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Examples (Non-exhaustive) of Outputs					
<b>Interconnection of databases critical for agriculture</b> <i>(e.g. GIS data, Land use, Soil map /land fertility, Forest resources, Irrigation and water management, Bio-diversity, Weather forecasting, Fire history etc.)</i>		Activities	Activities	Activities	Activities
<b>E-market place and information system for agriculture</b> <i>(Creation of e/m-market place, market information and scalable payment systems for national and international, promotion and awareness raising on use of e/m-services;)</i>	Activities	Activities	Activities		
<b>Agriculture e-advisory services</b> <i>(Advisory services offered by extension workers, consultants, researchers in country or abroad through electronic media (phone, Internet, email, video chat), face to face meetings or paper reports)</i>	Activities	Activities	Activities	Activities	
<b>Farm mechanization information and service</b> <i>(Creation of online machine and equipment information system linked with machine availability and rentals)</i>			Activities	Activities	
<b>Universal mobile broadband connectivity</b>	Activities	Activities	Activities		
<b>Logistics management concerning storage and transport</b> <i>(Information management linking agriculture service providers and markets)</i>			Activities		
<b>Electronic pest surveillance system</b>		Activities			
<b>Traceability of agro-chemical movement through value chain</b>			Activities	Activities	
<b>Weather Information Services and alerts</b>		Activities			
<b>Guideline on data sharing, data classification, data formats, secure e-documents</b>	Activities				
<b>Credible GAP content aggregation and packaging</b> <i>(Creation of Agriculture content and packaging for information delivery on ICT channels (video, audio, website, text), streamlining interoperability of future content creation, capacity building, awareness raising)</i>	Activities	Activities	Activities		
<b>Certified higher yielding seeds, planting, breeding materials verification and traceability</b>			Activities	Activities	
	<b>PHASE 1 FOCUS (example)</b> Strengthening existing services, Launch of high impact feasible services, Creating enabling environment for advanced services, Content creation and alignment, Capacity building, Partnerships development, Digital Literacy.		<b>PHASE 2 FOCUS (example)</b> Launch advanced services, Interoperability of databases and application platform, Promote take up of existing services, Enhance integration with existing e-services, Increase private sector engagement, Digital literacy		<b>PHASE 3 FOCUS (example)</b>

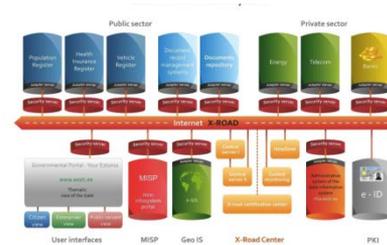
# ICT Solutions Identified *(examples)*



Online Content



Disaster Management



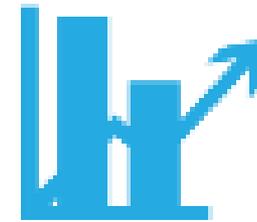
Data Collection, Data Bases,  
Data Analytics, Modeling



Capacity Building



Communication  
ICT Infrastructure  
Connectivity



Services, Logistics,  
Climate Change and  
Monitoring



Banking, Trading, Insurance



# Thank you

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