



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Regional workshop for Africa

Towards productive, sustainable and inclusive agriculture, forestry and fisheries in support to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Background

In September 2015, countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This will shape their development programmes in a transformational way for the next 15 years. At the last FAO Regional Conference for Africa, held in Abidjan in April 2016, many delegates asked the organization to assist countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda in the field of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The successful achievement of the SDGs is closely associated with countries being able to address sustainable development in a holistic and comprehensive way across sectors, and in their capacity to monitor progress against targets set by the 2030 Agenda.

In the African region, the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and the CAADP Implementation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2025 provide a new vision for agriculture, emphasizing the role of agriculture in contributing to broader strategies for structural economic transformation and inclusive growth. Achieving the SDGs in Africa is closely linked to the implementation of this new vision.

FAO has developed an approach aimed at enhancing the contributions of agriculture, forestry and fisheries to sustainable development and to address sustainability issues across these sectors. Based on a set of principles for Sustainable food and agriculture (SFA), FAO promotes policy dialogue and the development of joint and coordinated actions involving governmental bodies of different Ministries, the private sector and civil society. At regional and country levels, FAO is supporting this primarily through Regional Initiatives.

Objective

The objective of the workshop is to discuss how the principles for Sustainable food and agriculture can promote joint action to strengthen the contribution of agriculture, forestry and fisheries to sustainable development, and to identify priorities for FAO's support at national and regional levels. The workshop will support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Africa's agricultural transformation agenda, and identify priorities for action in the context of FAO's Regional Initiative 2 (RI2) on "Sustainable Intensification of Production and Value Chains Development in Africa".

Expected outputs

- Increased understanding by participants of the potential contribution of agriculture, forestry and fisheries to sustainable development, in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Malabo Declaration.
- Elements of actions of country-specific road maps aiming to enhance the contribution of sustainable food and agriculture to national development and to address key sustainability issues.
- Ways to support country-specific actions through FAO's Regional Initiative RI2 for Africa.

Participants

Around 40 senior government officials from agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and associated trade, finance and economic planning departments, FAO Representatives, representatives from civil society and the private sector from the countries of the FAO Regional Initiative RI2.

Location and dates

Kigali, Rwanda, 19-21 September 2016

Language

English and French during plenary sessions.

Workshop agenda

Day 1

A new Agenda for change (Plenary). This first session will analyse how agriculture, forestry and fisheries can contribute effectively to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Africa's agricultural transformation agenda, and identify how an approach based on the principles of Sustainable food and agriculture can contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Towards sustainable intensification of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and related value chains: mobilizing the potential and addressing key sustainability issues (Group work). This session will discuss two questions on the basis of concrete country cases:

- a) What actions are needed to make significant progress to sustainably intensify production and increase income of smallholders in agriculture, forestry and fisheries and related value chains?
- b) What are key issues that need to be considered to ensure sustainable production systems, address environmental degradation, climate change, rural poverty, and social inclusiveness?

Day 2

Field trip: Looking at the problem from different perspectives. A field trip will be the continuation of the group work. Groups will visit a rural area and discuss possible solutions for more sustainable, productive and inclusive development.

Day 3

Strategizing (Group work). Participants will further discuss concrete ways to engage in implementation of the 2030 Agenda in their respective countries with support from FAO, and in monitoring progress. They will work out:

- a) the elements of a country-specific road map to engage agriculture, forestry and fisheries more strongly in national development, in the context of implementing the 2030 Agenda and Africa's agricultural transformation agenda.
- b) on the basis of the activities planned by the nine countries, proposals on how FAO can best support countries in implementing them through the Regional Initiative 2.

Bringing it all together (Plenary) The results of the discussions will be presented and discussed in Plenary, with a view to develop a better understanding on the concrete actions of different participants in the follow-up.