

Cooperatives

- an important development tool for small scale farmers



- Today's situation for small scale farmers in developing countries is similar to Sweden 1930



- Many small scale farmers are producing food for their own family
- Marketing is difficult
- Dependency of “middle men”



- Small scale farmers can form Cooperatives to:

Market their products

Buy inputs

Get service



- With market access farmers have an incentive to produce more food
- Hence, well organised farmers produce more food



Example from Moldova

- Vitalact is a dairy cooperative
- Vitalact has organised training in production and hygiene
- Vitalact has opened collection points
- Farmers produce more and better milk



Example from Zimbabwe







FAO

- Support to agriculture is an efficient way of supporting development



Swedish development support

- Agriculture is not a Swedish priority
- SCC and LRF want Swedish Government to increase support to the agriculture sector



Conclusion

- Well organised farmers:
 - have better knowledge
 - have better market access
 - produce more food
 - have better income
- Hence, it is good to support small scale farmers to organise themselves in cooperatives to fight poverty and improve food security

