



Global Donor Platform  
for Rural Development

# MINUTES SDG 2 ROADMAP WORKING GROUP

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## PARTICIPANTS

- Alan Tollervey, FCDO
- Ammad Bahalim, Gates Foundation
- Ashley van Waes, USAID
- Boran Altincicek, University of Bonn
- Carin Smaller, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate
- Chris Hilbruner, USAID
- Christina Connolly, FCDO
- David Laborde, IFPRI
- Fabrizio Moscatelli, Gates Foundation
- Francine Picard, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate
- Ingvild Langhus, Norad
- Jaron Porciello, Cornell University
- Jill Guerra, Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Kedar Mankad, Gates Foundation
- Maria Wichmann, BMZ
- Maryam Mashaie, GAC
- Nikita Eriksen-Hamel, GAC
- Behnaz Vand, GAC
- Oshani Perera, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate
- Willem Olthof, European Commission

### GDPRD Secretariat:

- Maurizio Navarra
- Michelle Tang
- Lise Saga
- Sierra Berardelli

## AGENDA

| Issue | Item  | Details  |
|-------|---|--|
| 1.    | Welcome and Introduction                      | Ammad/Gates Foundation   |
| 2.    | Coordination of Donor asks for and with IFPRI | Alan/FCDO<br>Ammad/Gates Foundation                            |
| 3.    | Update on Ceres2030                           | Carin/Shamba Centre<br>Jaron/Cornell University<br>David/IFPRI |

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS/ISSUES

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

- Alan Tollervey from the Research and Evidence Division in FCDO, Chris Hilbruner from the Analysis and Learning Division at USAID's Bureau for Resilience and Food Security and Oshani Perera and Francine Picard, founders of the Shamba Centre for Food & Climate, all joined the call for the first time.

## 2. COORDINATION OF DONOR ASKS FOR AND WITH IFPRI

### Purpose of session:

*A conversation on donor coordination of research needs and asks from IFPRI was held at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. A similar conversation for IFPRI asks related to the current food crisis and the Ukraine/Russia situation is now again very relevant for the donor community.*

### Issues discussed:

- FCDO, USAID and the Gates Foundation have worked together, urging CGIAR to pivot their focus towards the food crisis and Ukraine/Russia issues, convening around similar questions and asks. There needs to be a build-up of capacity for research centres such as IFPRI to be able to identify and respond to demands for research on new issues. Coordinating donor asks and spreading awareness on what IFPRI is currently (and will be) funded to do, can help donors in their programming and planning. **[Alan Tollervey, Chris Hilbruner]**
- It would be useful to understand funding flows and how to strategically align funding for different types of requests for IFPRI, both for longer-term and shorter-term analytical work during times of crises, to avoid ad hoc contracts. This could lead to a discussion between IFPRI and donors about the most efficient use of resources balancing between multilateral efforts and bilateral analytical work. There are different approaches to funding, with some being based on tightly controlled and managed programmes with full accountability, and others promoting a more relaxed buy-in to the system of the research institution itself **[Alan Tollervey, Chris Hilbruner, Nikita Eriksen-Hamel]**
- Before the current crises, multilateral funding for research was never designed to address requests in times of crises. There are lessons to be learned from the COVID-19 pandemic about research design, prioritisation, work capacity and time management **[David Laborde]**
- Coordination of donor asks for IFPRI can be ensured through information sharing of ideas and questions at a one stop marketplace, with focal points from different donor organizations. The marketplace could be organized in addition to a regular call that the GDRD Secretariat could convene. **[Alan Tollervey, Ammad Bahalim, David Laborde]**

### Action Points:

- *Members of the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group were asked to identify relevant contact points from their institutions for the liaison calls between IFPRI and donors.*
- *The Platform Secretariat will organize regular calls to coordinate donor asks for IFPRI. The first call will be organised in September 2022.*

## 3. UPDATE ON CERES2030

### Purpose of session:

*An introduction and context setting of the new project and the conclusion of Ceres2030 followed by a Q&A session and discussion.*

## Issues discussed:

- The challenges in focus for Ceres2030 have not changed since the Russian invasion, but have garnered more attention by the global community. SDG2 is now a top priority of global leaders and is present in the media. There is strong global consensus that humanitarian responses are not enough to respond to crises, rather, long-term investments are needed for structural solutions. **[Carin Smaller, David Laborde, Jaron Porciello]**
- The Ceres2030 project has now ended and a new project is being proposed, “*Hesat2040: A global roadmap to end hunger sustainably and nutritiously*”, which will build on the work of Ceres2030. “Hesat” is an Egyptian goddess that represents nourishment and abundance, central to the idea of ending hunger in a sustainable, nutritious way. The new project takes on a strong outward strategy, to work towards cultivating strategic partnerships to access high-level decision making, strengthen the existing international framework for agricultural development and move from knowledge to impact through a systems approach to meet the SDGs.
- In February, the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group provided feedback on work moving forward. Such feedback can be summarized in 3 key messages: (1) there are no significant additional financial resources on the horizon; (2) SDG2 as a lens is too narrow; and (3) there is worth in further uptake in Ceres2030. Through these messages, three key outcomes were developed as overarching goals for Hesat2040: (1) improved efficiency and effectiveness of agriculture and food security ODA based on Ceres2030 recommendations; (2) Improved integration of nutrition, gender equality, and climate change, in agriculture and food security in order to advance a post-2030 agenda that is more holistic, evidence-based, and systemic; and (3) identification and creation of processes, protocols, strategic partnerships and institutional homes to ensure longevity of the work.
- Each outcome has prospective activities to contribute to their success:
  - Outcome 1 - Tracking and monitoring ODA; improving donor coordination and collective action; using project databases of donors; conducting uptake work with varying actors, coalitions and alliances that have formed in the last year; and modelling costs and gaps for gender and nutrition sensitive agriculture.
  - Outcome 2 - Improving the normative and technical standards for evidence (through a new initiative, “The Juno Evidence Alliance”); publishing new evidence in scientific journals; building on work done with the European Commission, BMZ, and GIZ on country roadmaps in Ethiopia, Malawi and Nigeria to create regional roadmaps on climate, nutrition and food systems; and advancing work in Latin America and South-South learning, looking at evidence and costs on agriculture, climate, trade and markets through a project called Avanzar2030.
  - Outcome 3 - Engaging with institutions for potential housing and continuance of this work.
- Key events and important milestones of Hesat2040 will be this year’s UNFCCC COP 27 (and future COPs), Nutrition4Growth Summit in 2024, Brazil G-20 in 2024, and a predicted SDG-related-event in 2025. The project will include focused reports on the different topics being integrated, such as nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions. The budget to run the initiative is estimated at around US\$6.5 million, over a 2-3-year period, with Outcome 1 totalling 44.8% of total budget, Outcome 2 at 49%, and Outcome 3 at 6.2%. **[Carin Smaller, David Laborde, Jaron Porciello]**
- The group showed consensus that the project’s sub-title is well liked, whereas the project’s title and the reference for 2040 should be reconsidered. The group expressed concerns with rebranding, as the “Ceres2030” brand has become well-recognized, and the 2040 date may have significant branding and political significance. **[Ammad Bahalim, Jill Guerra, Kedar Mankad, Maria Wichmann]**
- Outcomes 1 and 2 are considered fully relevant by the group, but hesitancy was expressed for Outcome 3 regarding institutional housing. There are pros and cons to institutionalisation, but one of the strengths of Ceres2030 was its independence. Regarding ordinary grant support, short cycled funding requires consideration for continued effect beyond the grant’s time span,

and therefore it can be useful to consider to find long term institutional homes for support to the Ceres2030 project. **[Ammad Bahalim, Willem Olthof]**

- An important asset of Ceres2030 has been the trust and relationships that the project leads and the expert community have built with the donor community – and this will also be central to the next phase of work. The Hesat2040 project should be inclusive and maintain the informal mechanism of the SDG 2 Roadmap Working Group. **[Ammad Bahalim]**

#### **Q&A:**

- Why rebranding as Hesat2040 - is it more feasible, is it already the moment to switch dates? Moving on from Agenda 2030 may be interpreted as prematurely giving up on these goals. **[Ammad Bahalim, Jill Guerra, Kedar Mankad, Maria Wichmann, Willem Olthof]**

**Answer:** The name Ceres2030 can no longer be used due to copywriting and legal issues. However, it can continue to be referred to and spoken about and the website and publications will remain online. The '2040' reference date was selected to give optimism to what is beyond 2030, but will be reflected on as the intent is not to abandon the 2030 agenda. The group agreed to keep the label "Hesat", but to use "2030" in the initiative name.

- The group questioned the idea of integrating multiple focus areas in one project, i.e. gender, nutrition, climate. This was both due to a mixed evidence base and the complexity of attempting to address goals and targets in addition to SDG2 thereby risking a loss of focus. The implementation and uptake of Ceres2030 original research recommendations should therefore be the primary aim. **[Ammad Bahalim, David Laborde, Jill Guerra, Kedar Mankad]**

**Answer:** To ensure continuing decision maker and political relevance, the work on nutrition, gender and climate should be considered a derivative product from existing research and targets.

- Are the regional roadmaps mentioned in the plan for Hesat2030 linked to the national pathways of the UN Food Systems Summit? What is the connection between Hesat2030 and the Zero Hunger Coalition? **[Jill Guerra, Willem Olthof]**

**Answer:** Ceres2030 was the basis for forming the Zero Hunger Coalition. The coalition has been established and convenes important stakeholders in the food systems space, but does not yet have an evidence base. The tools from Ceres/Hesat2030 could be used to develop national and regional roadmaps for food systems transformation in the coalition. The pathway for a specific region could become the focus of the coalition over a certain time period to develop an evidence-based roadmap, which then could be taken back to the coalition for matchmaking between relevant stakeholders.

- Will there be public-private financing of relevant investments?

**Answer:** There are some aspects of this already included in the project model, but there have been discussions with the CABI project to understand the contribution of private innovation. This will continue to be explored.

#### **Action Points:**

- *Ammad Bahalim invited the Ceres2030 team and interested donors to consider an in-person follow-up this fall, date and location TBD.*