

Global Donor Platform  
for Rural Development



European Commission

## Annual General Assembly

### *'Agenda 2030 put into practice: what future for rural development?'*

#### Day 1 and High Level Forum – Report from proceedings

**Wednesday and Thursday, 1 - 2 February 2017**

### **Agenda 2030 put into practice: what future for rural development?**

**Opening remarks**

**Agenda 2030 and rural development - are we fit for purpose?**

Positioning agriculture and rural development in the political and strategic context of EU programmes and initiatives

**Leonard Mizzi;**

**Head of Unit, Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition (Directorate C), European Commission,**

Global challenges:

- demographic developments with a strong young population
- pressures ensuing from a more urbanised society;
- dietary changes and the impact on the health status of the developing world;
- inequality and ensuing social tensions, migration flows within and beyond the African continent;
- concentration of the poor in fragile and conflict areas,
- pressure on land and water compounded by climate change
- volatile political environmental across the continents

2016 has shown major changes:

- trade and globalisation debate in any fora- especially in the context of agriculture;
- ODA resources diminishing relative to public resources and private investments
- achieving the SDGs will substantially increase the complexity of ODA as it will require exploiting the numerous interlinkages between the different SDGs, sectors, systems and actors.
- agriculture and rural development sector being sidelined in the current global political discourse – compared to during and just after the 2007/8 food crisis?
- There is a very strong case to boost sustainable agriculture and broaden the rural agenda –by territorial approaches and more sensitive to the rural-urban dynamics;

There is a clear demand for inclusive processes that support rural economic development – family agriculture, by empowering youth and women, as the backbone of rural communities. And where



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|   | <p>farmers and farmers’ organisations are at the centre of the solution.</p> <p>Effective partnerships will be essential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthen national policies and SDG planning processes;</li> <li>- leverage private investment using complementary risk mitigation and concessional finance tools like the European External Investment Plan ;</li> </ul> <p>Looking at today’s and tomorrow’s interventions the debates at this AGA will provide the Platform and its partners with the necessary food for thought and eventually solutions to support sustainable rural transformations across the globe.</p>   |
| <p><b>Welcome remarks</b></p> <p>Agenda 2030 and the Strategic Initiative of the Platform – concept of the AGA 2017</p> <p>“Transformation – not only rural”</p> <p>Strategic points for consideration in 2017 by the Platform</p> <p><b>Shantanu Mathur, Platform co-chair (IFAD)</b></p> <p><b>Mauro Ghirotti, Platform co-chair (IADC)</b></p> | <p><b>Shantanu Mathur; Platform co-chair (IFAD)</b></p> <p>The Platform is the only global network in the donor constituency working in the rural space, and allows for introspection and rationalization towards the 2030 agenda. It is crucial for partners to offer guidance in helping implement the agenda 2030, which only has 13 years left to establish.</p> <p>Climate challenges, environment, conflict and forced migration threaten the development gains of past and future development and can undermine stability in the next years. The inextricable nature of the SDGs demands inter-sectoral approaches, “delivering as one”, and the forging of strategic partnerships through the entire process with an agenda driven by partner countries themselves.</p> <p><b>Mauro Ghirotti, Platform co-chair (IADC)</b></p> <p>Rural - Urban dichotomies are already taking place, and the only thing that is new is that the post WW2 scenario is over, and African countries are having stable growth. The planet is trespassing its boundaries, and the biggest risk today is that of our physical future.</p> <p>The demographic population means that in 20 years we will be short on food. In addition, the youth jobless pandemic needs to be addressed and corruption are major determinants of agriculture and food security even though they are often not considered. More emphasis to research and science is needed for solutions that are caterers to private sector and public sector.</p> |
| <p><b>KEYNOTE SPEECH</b></p>  |  |
| <p><b>Keynote speech</b></p>  | <p>Our journey to 2030 will be cast around our ability to deal with the dynamics of turbulence and connection: turbulence associated with</p>  |



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Futurist outlook on major trends in finance, governance, human development and other issues that will influence the development agenda of 2030 – what is realistic to expect?

**Trends that will drive 2030 strategies and opportunities.**

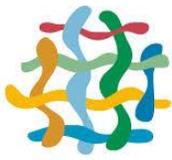
hyper-change that disrupts traditions, and connections associated with hyper-connectivity that presents new opportunities. This means the complexity of our lives will greatly increase. We'll learn how to work with the open-ended and unpredictable qualities of complexity, to move parts of complex challenges into a complicated action logic associated with management and greater predictability. We can already see this happening with movement of many sustainable energy experiments in *complexity* over the last three decades, maturing into *complicated* new sustainable energy systems. We must become expert in using the distinct tools and methods needed for complex versus complicated situations.

We can understand our current place in societal development through the lens of human development stages. These look at eras as dominated by distinct organizing logics. The lens provides two big insights.

One is that the current socio-political fragmentation will continue because rather than left-right, it is dominated by a pre-/post-scientific division; data suggest about 50 percent Western populations are still basically pre-scientific and base their world on concepts of myth, religion, brute force, and magic. Second, driven by connectivity and environmental disaster there is a new social-ecological development logic gaining power with a new generation.

The new generation with this logic presents great potential for the rise of new governance forms that are already emerging to complement the big business/big labor/big government one that arose from the Second World War. These new governance forms are reflected in an organizational innovation called Global Action Networks that include the Global Compact, the Forest Stewardship Council, and the International Land Coalition. They weave together diverse stakeholders to take on big global challenges. They operate as networks of committed participants in a much decentralized way.

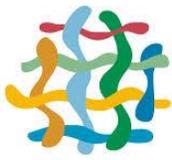
A second organizational innovation is represented by the growth of "societal change systems". These comprise all the change initiatives working to transform a production system – for example, all the initiatives integrating sustainability into the electricity production system. This also can be illustrated by the integration of financial inclusion as an imperative into the banking system in Kenya. Looking closely at this example, we can see a third emerging organizational innovation: "stewards" for the societal change systems. They are formed by stakeholders in the change process to ensure the change



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|  | <p>process can develop in a powerful way.</p> <p>The finance system itself is undergoing great transformation, in large part driven by new crises and new technologies. These will render banks simple nodes in a network and very likely will challenge the government’s fiat money monopoly with crypto-currencies like Bitcoin. To realize the 2030 SDG agenda, the organization of the “ecosystem for financing change” must be greatly enhanced. This comprises all the financing sources to realize the SDGs; new ones include sovereign wealth funds, crowd-sourcing, remittances, high networth individuals, global public goods taxes, and impact investing. The system requires a serious organizing effort, and presents ODA with substantial opportunities and its own transformation challenge.</p> <p>What the year 2030 will actually be like is highly unpredictable. But in the turbulence and connectivity, we can close that gap between our highest aspirations and our reality. It requires renewed determination, personally and in our societies, to work for transformation. There is no greater endeavor, for it will determine the very future of our planet.</p> |
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**PANEL 1** *Voices from the Global South*

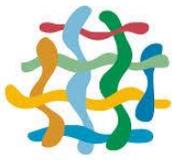
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| <p>How do partners see development cooperation in a decade?<br/>Headlines in 2030 - <i>Voices from the Global South</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Beatrice Byarugaba, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Uganda</b></li> <li>2. <b>Esther Mwaura - Muiru, Groots Kenya</b></li> <li>3. <b>Erich Schaitza, Former Coordinator of Embrapa Africa</b></li> <li>4. <b>Pham Quang Huy (Mr.), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development,</b></li> </ol> | <p><b>Augustin Wambo Yamedjeu</b><br/>Donors should align their support towards the priorities the counties have set themselves to not risk undermining progress in the countries they are supporting. Some factors to consider are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The youth of Africa should be in the driver seat for Africa to be fully independent and ensure success of territorial approaches.</li> <li>• Supporting smallholder farmers to become entrepreneurs with a focus on youth and women. The return on investments is worth it.</li> <li>• Private sector collaboration is also important however more focus needs to be put in learning how to partner effectively.</li> <li>• Missing link is instruments and tools to enable the countries to deliver the results of the plans that exist. Governments need to have options on how to implement their good plans.</li> </ul> <p><b>Beatrice Byarugaba</b><br/>An important mark of development is having access to good quality food, nutrition security and purchasing power. African countries can</p> |
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| <p><b>Vietnam</b></p> <p>5. <b>Augustin Wambo Yamdjeu, Head, Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)</b></p> | <p>learn from one another. Looking at the situation in Ethiopia in the 80's which was dismal, and now it is the commercial food production, leading coffee exporter of Arabica coffee in Africa. Partnerships were the key that allowed such development to happen, and the country is also contributing 13% of its National budget to agriculture. Some points to consider are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Once people have purchasing power, transformation can happen. Infrastructure is not enough for development because without economic activity, social and recreation services do not follow.</li><li>• Agriculture is private sector led, but private sector cannot expect free land to grow their crops and then send those products abroad.</li><li>• Families should put aside some land for growing food for the household.</li><li>• Research and technology must be closer linked to the farmers.</li><li>• Extension services should be decentralized, and there is opportunity to train uneducated rural youth so that the ratio of extension workers to farmers is smaller.</li></ul> <p><b>Esther Mwaura-Muiru</b><br/>Allow communities and women to be at the center of development. Women are now coaching themselves and are organised with the farmers who are producing. The women are now sharing economically with the traders and are accounting for the contribution that they are making in the household.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Donors need to work more with communities because they know more than anyone else what is needed and they themselves would be accountable.</li><li>• Community organizing is a useful strategy. It has been successful in the health sector with the HIV pandemic where women became the health care givers and there was a recognized role to play for the women. But there is resistance from the agriculture sector to recognize women as crucial for rural development.</li><li>• Donors are funding governments to do the work that the communities should be doing. For example women "kick" out inequality and bad public service delivery in rural Kenya because they know the impact that bad service has on their economic empowerment. They are providing accountability!</li></ul> <p><b>Erich Schaitza</b><br/>Research and extension services and organizing farmers in associations have been some of the most important steps which</p> |
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|  | <p>helped Brazil become food secure. Based on this experience, some thoughts for Africa are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative associations are many in some developing countries but they are not producing associations. The two need to work together.</li> <li>• Complement credit and extension with purchasing power (for example schools can be encouraged to purchase local for supplying lunches)</li> <li>• Bring researchers in Africa are closer to the production system, and use the experience from other countries such as Brazil to build South – South linkages for research.</li> <li>• Extension services should be treated as important, with extension workers valued and well paid to encourage more participation in this work.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pham Quang Huy</b><br/>In the vision for 2030, agribusiness will have fundamentally changed and the increased demand for food but also for feed (for livestock) will have increase the number of actors in the food value chains. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long and integrated supply chains will exist. Land and natural resource management will be core to the policies because of the competing demands.</li> <li>• Employment opportunities for farmers will improve because of the growing share of agriculture. There is a great pressure on farmers to produce high quality food which pushes them to improve production efficiency. The consumers are also willing to pay for the premiums and this needs the improvement of the management skills which allow farmers to become young entrepreneurs.</li> <li>• Supply side risk associated with climate change, animal health and so on might have big negative impacts on production. Young farmers may also abandon the land.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>PANEL 2</b> <i>Voices from international expert community</i></p>  |   |
| <p>Chances to implement Agenda 2030 in rural areas – how comprehensive and holistic can we be? - <i>Voices from international expert community</i></p> <p><b>Setting the scene with some facts:</b><br/><b>“Global Food Security 2030:</b></p> | <p><b>Barbara Adolph</b><br/>Major impacts and stresses on agriculture in Africa in 2030 – climate change, population growth, but also development of non-farm income, better rural infrastructure and access to finance for farmers’ investments in agricultural intensification. While the number of small farms will increase until 2030 in the absence of alternatives, all actors should take a longer term perspective to support the change of farming systems into sustainable agriculture. This is particularly true for the international community supporting inclusive and</p>  |



facts and figures of Foresight Study” – **Xavier Troussard**, EC

**Ending hunger – what would it cost?** – **Carin Smaller**, IFPRI/IISD

**Panelists:**

1. **Barbara Adolph**, IIED
2. **Natasha Grist**, ODI
3. **Morgane Danielou**, Emerging Ag
4. **Michael Taylor**, ILC

prosperous rural transformation

- African family farms are feeding themselves and African cities, whilst protecting ecosystems and rural livelihoods.
- Things will get worse before they get better, as most African governments and donors continue for some time to pursue an unsustainable modernisation agenda.
- It needs more pragmatism and less ideology to transform African agriculture.

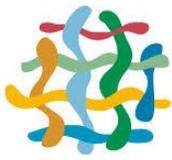
**Natasha Grist**

Looking constantly at many negative effects of small-scale farming – offer new opportunities for the rural poor by off-farm employment. On the other hand, many actions are needed to make the rural space socio-economically and environmentally attractive. Fostering innovations – including external innovation, also introduced by commercial agriculture – covers contract farming arrangements and ITC to send information for community and household planning at the right time. ODA is decreasing, but development partners can be much better in catalytic action on the ground.

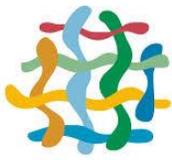
- Smallholder farming families are much more resilient to climate change as political will, social demand and financial backing lined up
- Agriculture has boomed alongside major leaps in inter-regional trade in Africa, and increasing trade with Asia, fostered by political will, organisational change and investment
- Development partners (donors) use their reduced budgets wisely to support country governments and the AU to ensure that the increasing proportion and volume of private investment into agriculture and natural resources will benefit the country’s people

**Morgane Danielou**

New production methods and codes on conduct of production will lead to reaching the necessary standards which local regional and international markets demand. Coalitions of dedicated agri-business operators from primary production to food retailers as well as large-scale commercial agricultural companies sign new commitments to sustainability and value-chain development. A flurry of business models has evolved induced by consumer organisations, farmers cooperatives and agri-entrepreneurs of all sizes despite all disruptions by markets, legislation and policies. While forces of opposite business paths clash, growing scrutiny of civil society and positive reactions of the private sector can be observed. Global food industry is in a few corporate hands, but business-driven



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|   | <p>development is not only a privilege of big companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The agribusiness sector has agreed on standards and codes of conducts to provide sustainable and nutritious foods: new production practices, new product formulations, new marketing/labelling/education campaigns, working in unison with civil society and governments.</li> <li>• Science-based and smart regulations have been put in place to shift radically food production and consumer behaviour.</li> <li>• Nutrition education and nutrition campaigns have educated food manufacturers and consumers on the importance of healthy diets.</li> </ul> <p><b>Michael Taylor</b></p> <p>In 2030, local communities decide how their land, water and natural resources are used. These decisions will shape local economies, societies, and food systems that meet their own needs, priorities and visions for the future – <i>‘people-centred</i> land governance. There is growing momentum for good land governance globally and nationally even beyond 2030 because all actors, including civil society and CSOs are increasingly organised and linked up from local to global level, able to exert political pressure for more inclusive and just land governance. On the problematic side, there is continued high corporate interest in acquiring land driven by economic interests as well as detrimental reactions to inclusive development by strong modernist views of economic development with little space to models of sustainable paradigms as per Agenda 2030. However, not incremental, but transformational change is needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local communities claim over 50% of the earth's surface, 25% is legally recognised.</li> <li>• Communities with secure tenure are building democracy from the bottom-up and managing healthy ecosystems, diverse local economies. Sustainable food systems meet their own needs and those of urban areas.</li> <li>• Rising inequality is evident where customary land rights have been ignored, fuelling displacement and conflict. Smallholder farmers are marginal to food production.</li> </ul> |
| <b>WORLD CAFÉ (TABLE DISCUSSIONS)</b>   |   |
| <p><b>Making sense:</b> conversations about our own development models in light of the panel inputs.</p> <p>What should we change? What</p> | <p><b>Participants views:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to modify governance to integrate across SDG sectors</li> <li>• Political will to address inequality</li> <li>• Increase financing for small and medium enterprises</li> <li>• Restore degraded resources on which SDG outcomes depend</li> <li>• If governments and donors continue to invest in line with their</li> </ul>  |



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| <p>do we risk if we don't change?</p>   | <p>own priorities then poverty will not end. Rather, governments should invest as enablers for rural transformation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donors, governments, private sector and citizens have complimentary roles and responsibilities which need constant clarification and resourcing</li> <li>• More focus on leapfrogging developments, using innovation to accelerate development</li> <li>• Build trust between donors and partner countries</li> <li>• Rural women farmers must be at the center of ending rural poverty</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>PANEL 3</b> <i>Voices of donor agencies and international finance institutions</i></p>  |   |
| <p><b>How will rural development and agriculture be positioned in international cooperation in 2030?</b> - <i>Voices of donor agencies and international finance institutions</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Leonard Mizzi</b>, EC-DEVCO</li> <li><b>2. Marjaana Pekkola</b>, MFA Finland</li> <li><b>3. Joseph Coompon</b>, AfDB</li> <li><b>4. David Hegwood</b>, USAID</li> </ol> | <p>The panel discussed broadly the how established donor institutions see the role of rural development and agriculture in international cooperation in 2030.</p> <p><b>Leonard Mizzi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rural spaces will change fundamentally in the next 15 years economies of developing countries will continue to diversify focusing on the provision of services and promotion of rural non-farm activities</li> <li>• the share of agriculture to GDP will decline, but new resilient and sustainable practices, new agri-food systems will ensure better productivity causing misbalance between rural and urban areas, forcing migration and putting small-scale farmers under pressure, so equity and equality will still be an issue</li> <li>• development of urban areas will create incentives for the supply side in rural areas to innovate and specialize, creating new trade opportunities - greater economic integration between rural and urban areas, forcing a new way of transformation;</li> <li>• despite the changes, agriculture will remain key factor in the transformational process of rural economies;</li> <li>• to guide the process to a positive outcome, the appropriate policy instruments and favorable institutional and organisational environments will have to be created.</li> </ul> <p><b>Marjaana Pekkola</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reasserting the positive impacts that the international agreement of the SDGs for the international cooperation efforts in rural areas;</li> <li>• SDGs institutionalised the linkages between food security and economic and social development;</li> <li>• interdisciplinary nature of the SDGs and their targets and indicators makes them complex, but their interdependency</li> </ul> |



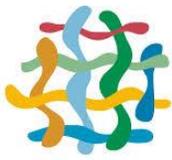
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|  | <p>multiplies the impact of success;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• at the center of the SDGs, issues of food security and the pressing need to increase productivity especially in Africa, if there is to be a change to implement the SDGs,</li><li>• focus on effort in enabling the young girls of today to become motivated farmers in 2030;</li><li>• criticism on the complicated way funding has to go through to reach the most vulnerable – Finish funding for certain projects in rural areas in Africa goes through the EU, then IFAD, then through a Finnish NGO to reach a Brussels -ased NGO network which then finally invests in farmers;</li><li>• ODA as we know it in 2017 from traditional donors will not exist anymore in 2030 - bilateral funding will be replaced by private sector, shortening the way, reducing transaction costs and opening the door to new technology and innovation and most of the funding will come from private sector and domestic resources.</li></ul> <p><b>Joseph Coompson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• informing the participants of the newly re-established prioritization of AfDB on agriculture – placing agriculture prominently in the current strategy and is developing a programme to structure its efforts around this priority – Programme: Feed Africa;</li><li>• basic assumption of the programme is that farming is not socially recognised and that there is a demographic shift in the population engaged in agriculture;</li><li>• new programme seeks to establish agriculture as a business opportunity, not a way of life, making clear that there are profits in agricultural business;</li><li>• agriculture as an economic sector has a lot of hidden potential, that if unlocked will be able to absorb a big portion of the unemployed youth and hinder migration to urban areas</li><li>• AfDB is hoping to get back the interest of youth in agriculture.</li></ul> <p><b>David Hegwood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• US government insitutionalised the US Global Food Security initiative “Feed the Future” in 2016 in a political bipartisan effort of the US to increase food security around the world;</li><li>• the law signet by former US-President Obama gives the good signal to all the different departments in government on the need to focus efforts</li><li>• inter-ministerial joint strategy developed to respond to Agenda 2030 and address food security in consultation with the CSO</li></ul> |
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|   | <p>community and business;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strategy identified two main goals with relation to food security - end hunger and reduce poverty and to fight malnutrition in all its forms;</li> <li>• strategy is based on learning and expertise of the different agencies - revised and proved results framework of all accumulated results over the last 5 years will also be released soon.</li> <li>• USAID has set the ground to continue their efforts to improve agricultural and economic growth in developing countries and it takes into account that the world is more complex than ever and there is need for a more sophisticated and informed view on what the role of bilaterals and IFIs are;</li> <li>• future projects of USAID will shift to more emphasis on broader systems approaches beyond just values chains, trying to integrate and layer efforts to increase economic growth with efforts to improve nutrition and hygiene and ensure resilience.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>THINKING ACROSS ALL PANELS</b></p>  |   |
| <p><b>What are the opportunities and challenges in 2030 based on current rural transformation?</b><br/>Strategic conversations: naming key opportunities and challenges for 2030.</p> | <p>Opportunities and challenges in 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As much as food security would be a challenge with the growing demographics and climate-induced threats of weather extremes, the experiences and knowledge presents an opportunity - focus of donors on nutrition and agricultural growth will be in the focus of future interventions;</li> <li>• Donors will face the challenge of de-risking private investments. Through more collaboration, risks can be shared and therefore mitigated.</li> <li>• Immigration should be treated as an opportunity and agriculture as the solution for creating incentives for young people to get engaged in agriculture and promote economic, social and cultural development in rural areas;</li> <li>• With the international agreements on SDGs and COP22 a new opportunity was created, namely the establishment of a direct link between agriculture and climate change – opportunities not fully used (particularly financial) – need scale-up the conversations between climate and agriculture experts;</li> <li>• building capacity for national institutions to ensure good quality of services in rural areas to bridge goals of the local private sector and governments to strengthen both of their commitments and investments to the rural areas;</li> </ul> |



| DISCUSSION GROUPS  |  |
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| <p><b>Discussion groups (parallel):</b></p> <p><b>What is new in support of rural transformation? –</b></p> <p><b>1. Agenda 2030 – what instruments to use to support inclusive and sustainable transformation? Explore innovative and impact-oriented initiatives for readiness and resilience in rural transformation under Agenda 2030.</b></p> <p><b>2. Rural future – what is in for youth?</b></p> | <p><b>National Transformation Pathways – Marie-Hélène Schwoob, IDDRI</b></p> <p><b>Approach to Food Security of OECD/FAO/UNCDF – Stefano Marta, OECD</b></p> <p>Two different instruments to support the ongoing process of rural transformation. The transformation pathways initiative looks into ways to unlock transformation in the agricultural sector by stimulating the dialogue and commitment for change within a wide community of actors through exercises that develop a vision and pathways for the future of national agriculture and food systems, with tangible solutions and actions.</p> <p>Territorial approaches as the OECD/FAO/UNCDF initiative to food security and nutrition foresees the integration of policies and policy coherence by actively trying to enhance interventions beyond sectoral approaches. It promotes multi-level governance systems, the increase of availability of local and regional data as well as strengthens the linkages between social policies and economic growth. The approach embraces bottom-up and place-based interventions.</p> <p>Discussion results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• both initiatives need to have better understanding of the space they are active in or targeting;</li> <li>• need to be able to ensure multi-level investments to bottom-up defined priorities with secured national ownership;</li> <li>• understand better the dynamics of the broader and more complex nature of rural transformation;</li> <li>• National ownership should be ensured by planning and implementing policy initiatives through a rural transformation lens;</li> <li>• And although there is one goal – inclusive and sustainable rural transformation – there are many pathways and initiatives will have to learn from each other, from success and failure;</li> </ul> <p><b>Integrated Country Approach for Promoting decent rural employment – Agnes Kirabo, Food Rights Alliance and Peter Wobst,, FAO</b></p> <p>Within the discussion group on “Rural future – what is in for youth?” FAO presented its Integrated Country Approach for promoting decent rural employment. The programmatic approach for country-level support on employment issues with emphasis on agriculture</p> |



**3. Transformational change -  
Climate finance readiness and  
NDCs in agriculture**

has been explicitly adapted to youth employment promotion in the case of Senegal, Uganda and Guatemala targeting i) very poor unskilled as well as ii) poor but market oriented rural youth. The approach aims at inclusive rural growth through tangible commitments and increased policy dialogue and programmatic coherence between national stakeholders, the donor community and youth themselves. Agnes Kirabo, Food Rights Alliance (Uganda) complemented the presentation with reflections on the country-specific implementation of the approach and related partnerships in Uganda.

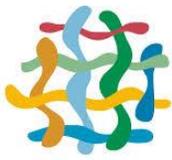
The discussion mainly addressed the issue of how to scale up the programmatic impact on rural youth employment creation and the improvement of the quality of existing jobs. The two principle drivers identified were access to rural finance and the mobilization of private sector financing. It was further suggested to enhance the youth content of regional/global initiatives (e.g. in the context of the currently established AU framework on how the donor community invests in the future into agricultural and rural development. Participants also emphasized the need for targeted and performance-based public procurements that explicitly consider youth as well as community-based financing of youth empowerment. Finally, the necessity to consider the job creation potential of agribusiness was underlined.

The participants highlighted additional Government-led experiences using the presented approach. The Kenya case of set-aside quotas for public procurement from women groups and small and medium enterprises was described as an example which is opening-up market opportunities for small entrepreneurs. Discussions followed up about the potentialities of the approach to foster transformative changes on value chains. In this regard, the size of the public procurement market was pointed out as key information to be taking in consideration to confirm the transformative capacity of the approach within rural transformation scenarios.

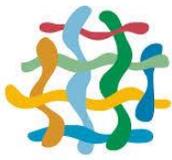
The potentialities of school meals programs as a contributor to positively shape dietary preferences was highlighted on a scenario of fast dietary changing, which are drive also by rural transformation processes. The participants reminded on the need of adopting comprehensive policies to face rural transformation, in this regard, links and complementarities between policies targeting children (school meals and learning opportunities) and youth (employment) were considered essential.



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| <p><b>4. Agenda 2030 and safeguards – when are agricultural landscapes ready for business?</b></p> | <p><b>Initiative Adaptation for African Agriculture (Triple A)</b> – presentation by Mohamed Badraoui, Director, National Agricultural Research Institute Morocco and</p> <p><b>ASEAN Climate Resilience Network</b> – presentation by Imelda Bacudo, ASEAN/GIZ</p> <p>Both presentations are self explanatory. Two major aspects also deriving from the discussion of the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. While the Initiative Triple A is clearly geared at national-level implementation which a clear governance structure and involvement of key institutions of participating countries, the ASEAN network is focused on global policy level engaging for the time being primarily in the UNFCCC negotiations and SBSTA to promote agriculture as one of the major means to achieve the nationally determined contributions (NDC) through national mitigation efforts. It was interesting to note that the Triple A Initiative has relatively little room for policy and strategy debate, while the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network is striving for more impact on national level planning and implementation. Reason enough to continue this South-South discussion and exchange of experience.</li><li>2. Both institutions have difficulties in cross-sectoral coordination and joint planning outside sectoral silos. While they share the fate of many attempt to enter into an inter-ministerial debate and multi-sectoral operations of more holistic programmes, it is ever more paramount that in the case of climate impact and climate action, sectors need to break down the barriers and communicate and collaborate. The reality of the Green Climate Fund and a great number of climate facilities and funds like in the World Bank can only be made available to rural development, if transformational change can be proven by the programme proposals to these funds.</li></ol> <p><b>Action Agenda for Business in Sustainable Landscapes</b> - Sara Scherr, EcoAgriculture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many of the environmental and social challenges and risks for agri-food companies cannot be managed through company or supply chain strategies, and require multi-stakeholder landscape partnerships</li><li>• To engage effectively in landscape partnerships, businesses need to undertake careful cost-benefit analyses, and strengthen internal capacities</li></ul> |
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For landscape partnerships to become a widespread business solution, systemic innovations are needed by financial institutions, governments and landscape program leaders</li> </ul> <p><b>Enabling the Business of Agriculture Programme</b> - Christopher Brett, World Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an enabling business environment to increase the supply chain efficiency and spur agricultural sector performance is important prerequisite for unleashing growth, employment and income generation in rural areas.</li> <li>• Under the EBA, 12 topic areas have been developed to address various aspects relating to production inputs and market enablers that facilitate farmers, firms and producers to sell their goods and services.</li> <li>• The indicators which are scored and measured in the soon-to-be launched 2017 report, cover seed, fertilizer machinery, finance, transport, markets, water and ICT. Two additional topics—land and livestock — are under development.</li> </ul>                      |
| <p>Synthesis of the day discussions</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Finding Resonance - Synthesis of day discussions</b><br/> <b>Leonard Mizzi</b><br/> <b>Head of Unit, Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition (Directorate C)</b><br/> <b>DG DEVCO</b><br/> <b>European Commission</b></p> | <p><b>Panel 1</b> - Voices from Global South</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women and youth at the center of development as principal agents of change</li> <li>• Support new forms of local governance fostering inclusiveness</li> <li>• Catalyse private sector-led inclusive growth (e.g. through value chains)</li> <li>• Knowledge intensive agriculture is needed to respond to the challenges</li> <li>• Working across sectors is important to achieve food security (effective management in a regional context)</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel 2</b> - Voices from the international experts community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased recognition of the crucial role of demand side in future food systems</li> <li>• Make rural communities less dependent on farming (off-farm diversification)</li> <li>• Focus on rural development, rolling out the basic social services</li> <li>• Foster innovations through ICTs and research</li> <li>• Donors should dialogue with the new types of private companies (SMEs), not just with big companies</li> </ul> |



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|  | <p><b>Panel 3</b> – Voices from donor and international finance institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appropriate policy instruments, favourable institutional and organisational environments for rural transformation</li><li>• Small Farmers in sub-Saharan Africa in 2030 will be mostly young women</li><li>• In productivity we need to look at quality not just quantity (e.g. nutrition)</li><li>• Need to incentivise African commercial banks to lend to the agricultural sector (de-risking)</li><li>• There might be areas or regions where agriculture is not the solution</li><li>• Funding should come mostly from partner countries</li><li>• We need new ways (simpler) of financing development</li><li>• Need to enhance impact, relying on evidence, data and research</li><li>• Enhance donor coordination</li></ul> <p><b>Voices from the tables</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Donors should take the initiative on climate finance for adaptation in agriculture</li><li>• Trade: ensure stable good quality supplies</li><li>• Is there a competition of ODA for a broader agenda? Not necessarily!</li><li>• Landscape and territorial approach strengthening stakeholders' agency</li><li>• Maximise possibilities for joint-up governance of development efforts</li></ul> |
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