



High-Level Dialogue on Donor Coordination for Food Systems Transformation: A Forward Agenda

27 June 2023
10.00 - 18.30 CET
IFAD HQ
Rome, Italy

An invitation-only, hybrid (in-person and virtual) event hosted by the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the European Commission.

Background and rationale

Globally, countries are grappling with **rising food, fertilizer, and fuel prices, and increasing food insecurity, brought on by the escalating impacts of climate change, conflict, and Covid-19.**

The **disruption of eco-systems, agri-food production systems and value chains** are causing an unprecedented rise in **global hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and distress migration.** In the future, extreme weather, geo-political instability, and pest and disease outbreaks are likely to increase, exacerbating the risk of food crises.

In this context, **there has never been a greater need for coordinated donor investments and collaboration that align with partner country needs and priorities.** However, emerging crises, pressure on resources and weakening multi-lateral cooperation combine to increase the challenges for effective donor coordination.

The coming years are likely to see a critical need for balancing **short-term crisis response with longer-term development** to create **food systems for the future** that can ensure security and be resilient to the impacts of **climate change, growing food demands and market disruptions.** **Increasingly scarce donor resources will need to optimize their catalytic potential with greater policy coherence and coordination between development partners and partner countries.**

Objectives

To help drive a future agenda for development partner coordination, the **GDPRD, IFAD, and the European Commission** are convening a **one-day high-level dialogue** bringing together **ministerial and senior representatives from partner country governments, donors, and international institutions** to explore:

- The **challenges that countries face in addressing national pathways for food systems transformation.**
- The ways in which **donors and other development partners can better coordinate their assistance to support food systems transformation in countries.**
- **Viable practices and approaches for coordination at a country level**
- The **enhanced coordination needed at global and regional levels** to address the twin challenges of responding to food crises and building long-term resilience.

The discussion will also consider **country-level coordination mechanisms**, the role of **jointly funded programmes, integrated global responses** to crises, and the **identification of opportunities for collaborative and joint programming in key areas.** The specific needs for coordinated responses to the areas of data, finance and policy innovation will also be covered.

About the Event

This high-level dialogue is the culminating event of the GDPRD's workstream on Country Level Donor Coordination for Food Systems Transformation, initiated in July 2022, with the objective to support donors and their partners with practical guidance on how to improve coordination and alignment, particularly at the country level.

The discussions from this event, together with a series of key informant interviews with experts and practitioners, a literature

review and analysis of existing donor coordination efforts and practices, will feed into a final report that will provide a review and guidance on good practices for enhancing donor coordination for food systems transformation and rural development.

Tentative Agenda

TIME	ITEM
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome
10:05 – 10:15	Interactive Session
10:15 – 10:30	Keynote Address
10:30 – 10:45	Insights from high-level interviews
10:45 – 12:00	High-level conversational panel
12:00 – 12:45	Q&A session
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	Plenary presentations on thematic challenges for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data - Finance - Policy - Crisis response - Long-term resilience
14:45-16:45	Breakout roundtables: implications for country level collaboration, based on thematic challenges In-room coffee break at 15:45
16:45 – 17:30	Reporting back on roundtables
17:30 – 18:15	Directions and forward agenda
18:15 – 18:30	Closing reflections and wrap-up
18:30	End and Aperitivo