Innovative and practical donor approaches to sustainable finance for food systems transformation

Monday, 24 July 2023
18:00-19:00 CEST

UNFSS+2 VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT
Co-organized by the Global Platform for Rural Development with the Shamba Centre for Food & Climate

EVENT OVERVIEW

How can donors make their funding more catalytic?

Donors and public funds are working continuously to increase the impact of their investments with the aim to achieve the SDGs and transform our food systems. However, there remains an estimated US$330 billion funding gap needed to eradicate hunger by 2030 as detailed in the Ceres 2030 report. New sources of funding are necessary, and donors need to find new ways to make their funding more catalytic.

How can official development assistance (ODA) for food systems better link to and increase synergies with other sources of development finance (e.g., climate finance, gender finance, emergency assistance)?

Given the stagnating pool of ODA to agriculture and food systems, many donors are interested in finding stronger linkages with other sources of development finance that are either newer (e.g., climate finance, biodiversity finance, gender finance) or growing (e.g., emergency assistance). Better understanding how to establish stronger linkages and synergies, while avoiding double counting, could provide more innovative solutions to better spend the total ODA amount globally.

To what extent should donors be looking to use their ODA grants and concessional loans to mobilize additional development finance from philanthropic and private finance providers?

This side-event will provide insight from donors on how they are balancing competing demands and interests in a difficult geopolitical and economic environment. It will explore their initial steps in innovative finance including the topic of ‘pay for performance’ and blended finance. Finally, it will examine the conditions needed to ensure the success of blended funds.
How important is public funding for de-risking?

More clarity is needed about blended finance in food systems. Concessional funding needs to be more catalytic to raise additional funds, for instance, with philanthropy and private capital.

The use of green and sustainable finance debt instruments – green, blue, social, sustainability, sustainability-linked and transition bonds and loans – is growing. The World Bank and other multilateral development banks (MDBs) receive contributions from donor governments and issue bonds to raise funds from capital markets. Should donors' contributions to these agencies be considered catalytic?

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

18:00-18:05 Opening and context setting
Tristan Armstrong, Co-Chair, Global Donor Platform for Rural Development & Senior Sector Specialist, Agricultural Development and Food Security Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) – Australia

18:05-18:15 Blended Finance: Simple Concepts - Complex Language
Tuleen Alkhoffash, Senior Partnership Officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

18:15-18:55 Panel discussion
Moderator: Oshani Perera, Co-founder and Director of Programmes, The Shamba Centre for Food & Climate
Panellists:
- Tshewang Dorji, Climate Change Specialist, Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the Council, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Iris Krebber, Head of Food Security, Land and Agriculture & Senior Adviser, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
- Christopher Wayne, Associate Director, Investing in Agriculture, Acumen Fund

18:55-19:00 Wrap-up and closing

EVENT WEB PAGE


This is an official virtual side event to the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+2), taking place on Tuesday, 24th July 2023. More information on the UNFSS+2 can be found here.