



## **DISCUSSION PAPER: SDG/Post-2015 Goals and Targets on Food and Nutrition Security through Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems**

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This paper reflects the views of Alliance Sud, Berne Declaration, Biovision – Foundation for ecological Development, Bread for all, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, HEKS, Millennium Institute and Swissaid.

*This paper may serve as a basis for discussion on a possible SDG/Post-2015 goal on Food and Nutrition Security, and Sustainable Agriculture<sup>1</sup> and Food Systems. A preliminary outline of key aspects to be considered for this subject is made, as well as suggestions provided on the process, monitoring and implementation for Post-2015 goals and targets. Furthermore, the paper contains an initial proposal of 6 specific targets, which are supported by short rationales.*

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<sup>1</sup> Agriculture is understood in a broad sense also comprising fisheries, aquaculture, husbandry, forestry and related forms of food production.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following **key messages** are outlined in this paper:

- In a world where we already produce enough food to feed the 9 billion projected for 2050, **870 million people worldwide – one child in five – still go hungry.**
- **Food security and nutrition for all through sustainable agriculture and food systems** must therefore be set as one of the fundamental goals of global development.
- **A holistic, integrated and inclusive approach** that promotes sustainable agriculture and food systems with positive economic, environmental, and social impacts is necessary: Nourish the people, nurture the planet!
- **Smallholder farmers must be given priority** if we want to arrive at an effective set of Post-2015 Goals.
- **Women play a major role** all along the food chain from the field to the plate. Their knowledge and needs must be taken into account on all levels of decision making that impact agriculture and food systems.
- **Food waste** is a significant challenge: a third of what is produced worldwide goes to waste.
- **Agricultural subsidies and trade policies** must be reformed and adapted to take into account the needs of small-scale farmers.
- The achievement of targets and transformation need to be informed by regular global, regional, and national multi-stakeholder **assessments** on sustainable agriculture and food systems.
- Progress on the Post-2015 Goals needs to be **measured and monitored by independent bodies** with the relevant knowledge, competence and capabilities.

Therefore, the **following goal and targets, to be achieved by 2030, are proposed:**

- Goal: Achieve food and nutrition security through sustainable agriculture and food systems**
- Target 1: End malnutrition and hunger in each of their forms, so that all people enjoy the right to adequate food at all times.
- Target 2: Ensure the livelihood of smallholder farmers and other rural communities, in particular women and disadvantaged groups, through access to productive resources and assets, everywhere.
- Target 3: Achieve the transformation to sustainable, diverse and resilient agriculture and food systems that conserve natural resources and ecosystems, and realize a land-degradation neutral world.
- Target 4: Minimize post-harvest and other food losses and waste.
- Target 5: Ensure an equitable multilateral trade system that promotes rural development and food security, including by eliminating dumping and other forms of asymmetric trade practices, as well as mitigating excessive food price volatility.
- Target 6: Establish inclusive, transparent, and equitable decision-making processes on food, nutrition and agriculture to accelerate progress towards food security and nutrition for all.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Every fifth child born today will grow up hungry. Since the mid-1990s, the number of malnourished people has increased by more than 100 million, despite the fact that the world's farmers have been producing an average of 4'600 Kcal per person, or about twice as much as needed. This imbalance is driven by many factors, including losses between harvest and consumption, an increasing amount of agricultural land devoted to the production of agrofuels, but also unsustainable consumption patterns. At the same time, natural resources are shrinking, ecosystems are more and more degraded, and the negative impacts of climate change are painfully felt in many parts of the world, especially by those already living in poverty.

These problems are in part the result of mistakes in agricultural policy. For far too long, an industrialized agricultural model of the green revolution with few high-yielding varieties and a need for high fertilizers application rates, water, and pesticides was promoted. This model extracted the most out of the soil in the short run without concern about long term ecological consequences. Although this yielded a temporary increase in revenue, it damaged the health of soils, thereby ultimately destroying the foundation of agriculture and food production.

Against this background, a multi-stakeholder Global and five Regional Assessments of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), commissioned in 2002 by the Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, were published in 2009 under the title "Agriculture at a Crossroads".<sup>2</sup> The reports call for a fundamental shift in agricultural policy and a re-orientation of agricultural research towards an agro-ecological, multifunctional agriculture that does not seek the maximum conceivable yield, but a sustainable yield that preserves soil and water, and sustains and promotes the fertility of soil and biodiversity while producing nutritious and diverse food in adequate quantity for present and future populations.

Consensus on the necessity of such a transformation is growing. Transforming agriculture and food systems can best be done when all stakeholders are involved in the decision-making process, especially women, small-scale farmers and food producers, and other disadvantaged groups. However, making this transformation a reality requires decisive action and political commitment through ambitious global goals and targets.<sup>3</sup> The Outcome Document of the Rio+20 Conference "The Future We Want" stated that the process started under the IAASTD should continue in the form of country-initiated multi-stakeholder assessments of agriculture and food systems, with the aim of providing the needed information for the design of well informed new agriculture and food system policies.<sup>4</sup>

In this regard, Rio+20 provided an important milestone and opportunity. One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by member States to launch a process to develop a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs) that could be a useful tool for pursuing focused and

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<sup>2</sup> IAASTD (2008). Agriculture at a Crossroads: Global Report.

<sup>3</sup> During the High-Level Roundtable on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture in March 2013, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon, stated as follows: „To achieve these objectives, we need to transform the way we approach food security, in particular by unleashing the potential of millions of small farmers and food producers, of whom the majority are women. To transform agriculture and food systems, all stakeholders should be involved in decision-making, especially women and small-scale farmers and food producers. Sustainable 2agriculture and food security will be best achieved when consumers and producers, and the private and public sectors agree on principles and build partnerships.”

<sup>4</sup> The future we want. GA Res. 66/288, 66th Session, UN DOC A/RES/66/288 (2012); Para 115.

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coherent action on sustainable development. The SDGs might be further merged into one process together with the on-going work on the “post-2015” follow-up framework of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which are set to expire in 2015. In the following, the SDGs and the post-2015 framework together are referred to as the Post-2015 Goals.

It is now the time to develop an integrated set of goals, with environmental, economic, social, and health related dimensions. To achieve this, sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security must be given high priority.

## 2 KEY ISSUES

In developing the Post-2015 Goal, these key issues should be considered:

- **PRIORITIZE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:** Agriculture can be both a cause and a solution to environmental problems, food insecurity, and poverty. Agriculture is linked to biodiversity loss, land degradation and climate change. However, sustainable agriculture has the unique potential to mitigate biodiversity loss, land degradation and climate change and to strengthen resilience to the impacts of these environmental problems. Furthermore, sustainable agriculture is the most effective way to reduce poverty<sup>5</sup>. *Sustainable agriculture is essential to fight poverty and save the planet.*
- **NOURISH THE PEOPLE – NURTURE THE PLANET:** To achieve sustainable development, a more holistic approach that promotes sustainable agriculture and food systems that have positive economic, environmental, and social impacts is necessary. Furthermore, existing trade-offs, such as agricultural practices that have negative effects on biodiversity, need to be discussed and decisions made in consultation with the affected stakeholders. *Nourish the people – nurture the planet. Nothing less.*
- **DO NOT LEAVE SMALLHOLDERS BEHIND:** One of the targets of a goal for sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security should be to empower and improve the livelihoods and income of the most disadvantaged by specifically addressing smallholder food producers, including women, indigenous people, and other disadvantaged groups, in particular improving their tenure rights to land, water, and other natural resources, as well as access to markets. *We cannot leave smallholders or women behind, if we want to establish an effective set of goals for Post-2015.*
- **STRENGTHEN WOMEN’S RIGHTS:** Women play a major role in the production, processing and provision of food. Their participation in the agricultural workforce and in activities following the harvest ranges between 20 and 70 per cent, a figure which is on the rise in many developing countries. They need time, energy, water, infrastructure and knowledge to prepare meals. The position of women and especially their access to resources in agriculture and food systems must be improved. In addition, their rights as workers within the food system must be safeguarded.
- **ADDRESS STRUCTURAL DEFICITS IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE REGIME:** For food systems to become more resilient to shocks, such as sharp rises in food prices or

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<sup>5</sup> The World Bank (2008). World Development Report. Agriculture and Poverty Reduction. Available online at: [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOUTHASIAEXT/Resources/223546-1171488994713/3455847-1192738003272/Brief\\_AgPovRedctn\\_web.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOUTHASIAEXT/Resources/223546-1171488994713/3455847-1192738003272/Brief_AgPovRedctn_web.pdf)

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asymmetric trade practices, such as export subsidies and/or price dumping, a rights based approach to food security and sustainable agriculture must be pursued.<sup>6</sup>

### 3 PROPOSED GOAL

For the theme of “Food Security and Nutrition, and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems”, we propose the following Post-2015 Goal:

**Achieve food and nutrition security through sustainable agriculture and food systems**

### 4 PROPOSED TARGETS

In order to achieve this goal, a set of targets needs to be realized. Such targets may guide coherent action towards realizing the Post-2015 Goals. We propose the following 5 targets and outline short rationales for each target.

**Target 1: End malnutrition and hunger in each of their forms, so that all people enjoy the right to adequate food at all times.**

- In order to gain access to sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food and nutrition for all, all dimensions of malnutrition must be addressed in an integrated manner. Only coherent actions incorporating all aspects of this important issue will be successful. In this regard, actions must be contextual and pay special attention to nutrition during pregnancy and early childhood.
- The Right to Food, and Food Sovereignty should be explicitly addressed to further support their overarching roles in achieving the goal.
- The right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement, as defined by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in its General Comment 12. The core content of the right to adequate food implies the availability of food in a quantity and quality sufficient to satisfy the dietary needs of individuals, free from adverse substances, and acceptable within a given culture. It further encompasses the accessibility of such food in ways that are sustainable and that do not interfere with the enjoyment of other human rights.<sup>7</sup>
- Agricultural investments must secure long-term private and common tenure rights to land and other natural resources, and ensure the right to a life free from hunger and malnutrition. Businesses have the responsibility to respect the right to food.
- The target is consistent with the Secretary General’s Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) with its proposed aim to achieve 100 per cent access to adequate food all year round and to end malnutrition in pregnancy and early childhood.

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<sup>6</sup> This could mean that the Right to Food shall be integrated in future trade agreements.

<sup>7</sup> Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment 12. Available online at: <http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/O/3d02758c707031d58025677f003b73b9>

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**Target 2: Improve the livelihood of smallholder farmers and other rural communities, in particular women and disadvantaged groups, through access to productive resources and assets, everywhere.**

- One of the targets of a goal for sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security needs to address the livelihoods and income of the most disadvantaged, in particular smallholder farmers, including women, farmworkers, indigenous peoples, pastoralists and other traditional communities such as fisher folks, and urban dwellers.
- The vast majority of the world's farmers are smallholder farmers. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 80 per cent of farms cultivated are smaller than 2 hectares.<sup>8</sup> Worldwide, 70 per cent of food production stems from 525 million small operations, which collectively cover the cultivation of 40 per cent of the planet's arable land.<sup>9,10</sup> A reduction in hunger can only be achieved by including smallholder farmers in any solution. The majority of these farmers are women, representing one of the most disadvantaged groups in farming.
- Women play a major role in the production, processing and provision of food. Their participation in the agricultural workforce and in activities following the harvest ranges between 20 and 70 per cent, a figure which is on the rise in many developing countries.<sup>11</sup> All over the world, it is mainly women who are responsible for providing and preparing food. Still, women and girls are those suffering most from hunger and malnutrition. Women are also subject to numerous disadvantages in the agriculture sector. They earn less and have fewer rights. In Sub-Saharan Africa, women produce 80 to 90 per cent of the food, but own a mere 2 per cent of the land and receive just 10 per cent of all micro loans for agriculture.<sup>12</sup> The position of women in agriculture in developing countries must be improved. They need time, access to energy and water as well as adequate infrastructure to prepare meals. According to some estimates, providing women with equal access to education and agricultural resources would translate into a 20 to 30 per cent increase in yields, which in turn would reduce the number of hungry by 100 to 150 million.<sup>13</sup>
- The important role of smallholder farmers in sustainable development has already been recognized in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security at the World Food Summit 1996. The Declaration highlighted the need to promote the empowerment of small-scale family farmers, fishers and foresters, both women and men, to set up their own cooperatives and business undertakings, as well as farmers' and fishers' financial and mutual institutions. The important role of smallholder farmers is further emphasized by the UN International Year of Family Farming 2014.

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<sup>8</sup> High Level Expert Forum: How to feed the world 2050 – the special challenge for sub-saharan Africa, Rom, 12./13.10.2009 [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/Issues\\_papers/HLEF2050\\_Africa.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/Issues_papers/HLEF2050_Africa.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> UNEP (2011), Green economy Report, p. 41

<sup>10</sup> Böll-Stiftung (2011), Less hunger through more ecology, 2011, p. 2

<sup>11</sup> Book Chapter contributed by Hans Herren DPG 2010

<sup>12</sup> Ibrahim Forum 2011, African Agriculture: Malnutrition, From Meeting Needs To Creating Wealth, p.32

<sup>13</sup> Ibrahim Forum 2011, African Agriculture: Malnutrition, From Meeting Needs To Creating Wealth, p.32

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- Access to and control over productive resources means that people have secured ownership or rights to use resources. Productive resources include land, water, seeds, forests, biodiversity and fisheries. This includes strengthening land tenure rights. Access to assets includes financial and non-financial services. These include access to micro credit and micro insurance to protect against crop failure, information along the entire value added chain, drawn from public domain knowledge and environmentally sound technologies.
  - People's access to the food they need depends on food markets functioning properly at local, national, regional and global levels, including through widely available market information for all. Access also depends on the ability to pay for food. Fair and localised markets, together with rules and regulations that foster fair trade and respect human rights all contribute to more equitable access. Sustainable food value chains or food production nets – from production, through processing, transport and trade, to consumers – increase the availability of food, generate income and help create and maintain decent jobs.<sup>14</sup>

**Target 3: Achieve the transformation to sustainable, diverse and resilient agriculture and food systems that conserve natural resources and ecosystems, and realize a land-degradation neutral world.**

The Rio+20 outcome document supports the notion that sustainable agriculture and food systems improve food security, eradicate hunger and are economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters (para 111).<sup>15</sup>

The preservation and sustainable use of natural resources is key to sustainability in agriculture and food systems. However, natural resources are currently overused or degraded. Water supplies are running low, forests are disappearing, the diversity of species, races and genetic varieties, the very basis of plant and animal breeding, is shrinking. In some already deprived regions of the world, namely in tropical and seasonally dry regions such as Sub-Saharan Africa, the change of climate will severely alter and diminish the potential income from agriculture. With a share of almost a third in global greenhouse-gas emissions, agriculture and forestry are two of the lea-

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<sup>14</sup> The Zero Hunger Challenge has also called for increased productivity and income of smallholders, particularly women. However, the increase in productivity and income that is actually needed will depend on the specific context

<sup>15</sup> The key characteristics of sustainable, diverse, and resilient agriculture and food systems can be common to all future agriculture and food systems, both large and small. They include: the sustainable management of land, water and other natural resources, regenerative soil management, zero land degradation, responsible land tenure, increased resource use efficiency, minimized emissions and use of non-renewable inputs, high biodiversity and farm animal welfare, strengthened urban-rural linkages, fair prices at farm gate level, access to markets and locally produced food of high nutritional quality, sustainable diets and consumption patterns, reduced waste and other unsustainable practices throughout the food chain, improved public health, empowerment of rural women, safeguarding the rights of agriculture and food systems workers, system resilience, social safety nets and disaster preparedness.

See also: Nourish the People – Nurture the Planet. Recommendations from the High-Level Roundtable on Food and Nutrition Security, and Sustainable Agriculture. 15-16 March 2012. New York. Available online at: [http://www.biovision.ch/fileadmin/pdf/e/news/Recommendations\\_Nourish-our-people\\_Nurture\\_our\\_planet\\_Roundtable\\_New\\_York.pdf](http://www.biovision.ch/fileadmin/pdf/e/news/Recommendations_Nourish-our-people_Nurture_our_planet_Roundtable_New_York.pdf)

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ding causes of climate change. When considering the total industrial food system, the GHG emissions share rise to between 44 and 57% of the total.<sup>16</sup>

- Soils are the basis for life on earth. Soils are crucial for food production, sustainable use of water and biomass, and poverty eradication. Moreover, soils play a key role in adaptation and mitigation strategies for climate change. Therefore, the fact that 40 per cent of the soil used by agriculture, and 1.9 billion hectares of agriculture land have already been degraded due to intensive and improper use of this resource is of great concern.<sup>17</sup> Land degradation directly affects 1.5 billion people and costs about 40 billion US dollars each year. The Rio+20 outcome document recognized the need for urgent action to reverse land degradation and to strive to achieve a land-degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development (Para 206).
- These issues can be addressed by realizing the transformation to sustainable agriculture and food systems, in particular agro-ecological and organic farming, that conserve natural resources and ecosystems, and protect public health through better nutrition. Sustainable agriculture has the unique potential to bind CO<sub>2</sub> in the ground and can therefore mitigate climate change. In addition, agro-ecological farming makes agriculture more resilient, especially to climate change and its effects.<sup>18</sup> Using a broader “landscape approach” ensures an integrated view on the outlined challenges.<sup>19</sup>
- A transformation with regard to agricultural production and consumption is necessary. A sole increase in production is not sustainable. Improvements need to be achieved throughout the whole food system. There is a need to revise agricultural policies and trade regimes to encourage the decentralization of food chains, promote locally customized and diversified markets based on solidarity and fair prices, shorten supply chains and improve relations between producers and consumers in local, national, regional, and international markets.
- This target supports the call of the World Food Summit 2009. The Declaration highlighted the need to proactively face the challenges of climate change to food security, namely the need (1) for adaptation of agriculture to climate change, (2) for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture, and (3) for increasing resilience of agricultural producers to climate change, giving particular attention to small agricultural producers and vulnerable populations.<sup>20</sup>
- This goal is supported by the Zero Hunger Challenge seeking to make all food systems sustainable.

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<sup>16</sup> UNCTAD / GRAIN 2011

<sup>17</sup> International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development IAASTD, Global Summary for Decision Makers, 2008, [www.agassessment.org](http://www.agassessment.org).

<sup>18</sup> International Panel on Climate Change (2007). Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Chapter 8 Agriculture. [http://www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/ar4/wg3/en/ch8.html](http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg3/en/ch8.html)

<sup>19</sup> See also FAO (2012). Mainstreaming Climate-smart Agriculture into a broader landscape approach <http://www.fao.org/docrep/016/ap402e/ap402e.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> World Food Security 1996, 36. Objective 3.5; (l), <http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/w3613e/w3613e00.htm>.



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**Target 4: Minimize post-harvest and other food losses and waste.**

- Reducing food losses and waste provides an excellent opportunity to attain the goal, without further intensifying agricultural production that will lead to potentially damaging social and environmental consequences.
- Roughly one-third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year is lost or wasted. If one-fourth of the food currently lost or wasted globally was saved, it would feed 870 million hungry people in the world.<sup>21</sup>
- Every year, consumers in developed countries waste almost as much food (222 million tonnes) as the entire net food production of Sub-Saharan Africa (230 million tonnes).<sup>22</sup> Therefore, these countries have a specific responsibility to lead efforts to quickly and significantly reduce food waste .
- In developing countries, 40 per cent of food waste occurs within the agriculture sector itself.<sup>23</sup> In Sub-Saharan African countries, this roughly corresponds to the value of all grain imports.<sup>24</sup> The primary causes of food waste in developing countries include inadequate storage, processing and transport capacities.
- A target addressing this challenge had already been endorsed at the Rio+20 conference in the call to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain (Para 110).
- The Zero Hunger Challenge calls on countries to achieve a zero rate of food waste and losses.

**Target 5: Ensure an equitable multilateral trade system that promotes rural development and food security, including by eliminating dumping and other forms of asymmetric trade practices, as well as mitigating excessive food price volatility.**

- Inadequate agricultural, finance and trade rules have contributed significantly to increased volatility in agricultural markets. In recent decades, much of the focus of disputes at the World Trade Organization have focused on the problem of dumping – exports of artificially cheap agricultural products on vulnerable markets. Agricultural policies and subsidies in developed countries encouraged overproduction and reliance on export markets to compensate for low prices. Developing countries, compelled to reduce barriers to trade and public support to agriculture under rule in the WTO and a series of bilateral trade agreements, were advised to import cheap food rather than to strengthen local food economies. In the process, local food production, especially by small-scale farmers, was decimated, and multinational corporations gained considerable power over supply chains and agricultural input markets (e.g. seeds).
- The 2008 and 2011 food price crises exposed the problems of over-reliance on international markets and flawed trade rules, as well as the relatively new problems of excessive speculation on commodity markets. The deregulation of financial markets has led to a process of “financialization” of commodities, treating food, energy and other commodities as asset classes for speculative investments rather than the back-

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<sup>21</sup> FAO (2011). Global Food Losses and Waste: Extent, Causes and Prevention.

<sup>22</sup> FAO (2011). Global Food Losses and Waste: Extent, Causes and Prevention.

<sup>23</sup> UNEP, Green economy (2011), Agriculture – Investing in natural capital, p. 47

<sup>24</sup> Ibrahim Forum 2011, African Agriculture: Malnutrition, From Meeting Needs To Creating Wealth

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bones of stable economies and food systems. Extreme weather variability has also disrupted markets and pointed to the need for the reestablishment of food reserves to stabilize markets and ensure food is available during times of crisis. Taken together, this situation points to a series of vital reforms to international trade and finance rules:

- A reassessment of trade rules to enable developing countries to protect and support sectors vital to their food security and rural livelihoods.
- Support for the establishment of food reserves as a tool to mitigate price and supply volatility and strengthen food security when domestic production fails. This would be in line with the adopted Bali package by the WTO that gives greater flexibility for public spending on food stocks.
- Prevention of excessive speculation on commodity markets through the establishment of commodity-specific position limits and increased transparency in over-the-counter trading. Financial market reforms underway in the U.S. and EU should be completed and coordinated to ensure better functioning markets.
- Greater investment in agroecological farming practices to rebuild stable food supplies (from local markets), enhance economic and environmental resilience, including the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
- Reform of national farm policies, particularly in industrialized countries, to eliminate dumping, encourage environmental sustainability, and prevent oligopolistic control of market prices and practices.

**Target 6: Establish inclusive, transparent, and equitable decision-making processes on food, nutrition and agriculture to accelerate progress towards food security and nutrition for all.**

- Good governance at all levels is key to reducing food insecurity, hunger and malnutrition, and to achieve the needed transformation to attain the Post-2015 Goal. This should be fostered through enhanced national ownership and democratic decision making at all levels, more explicit rights-based approaches, strengthened accountability, as well as more inclusive legislative and multi-stakeholder decision-making processes. Such processes need to give particular attention to women, smallholder farmers, and other disadvantaged groups.
- Effective policies and good governance on agriculture and the food system have the potential to prevent and mitigate food crises and to contribute to sustained food security. They also enhance the positive impacts on poverty eradication, income generation, job creation and gender equality, while helping conserve our natural resources. The course and development of agriculture and the food system is strongly determined by national policies and strategies. However, the current national and international policy and governance framework falls short of meeting these standards. Therefore, national and international policy and governance frameworks should be the basis and directory for the implementation of concrete measures, actions and projects in the countries and determine where public and private investments are allocated.
- Each country has its own environmental and socio-economic conditions which also vary within the country itself. Therefore, there is no one-size-fits-all approach for all countries on how to achieve the required transition in the agricultural system. Only measures that target country-specific conditions can facilitate the envisaged change of course in agriculture and the food system.

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- Country-initiated, multi-stakeholder assessments on sustainable food systems, food and nutrition security are instrumental in revealing the status of sustainability of food systems, including the enjoyment of the right to food, and in addressing hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition with a long-term perspective. These assessments are a prerequisite for determining effective and foresighted food security and nutrition strategies and actions that allow to accelerate progress towards national goals and targets. The Committee on World Food Security is currently looking into options on how to facilitate country-initiated, multi-stakeholder assessments, based on the respective mandate in the Rio+20 outcome document (para 115).

## **5 SCOPE, PROCESS AND MONITORING**

We believe that the Post-2015 Goals should be global and apply universally, but that goals and targets may be adapted by each region and country.

To develop fair and inclusive Post-2015 Goals, a multi-stakeholder approach which includes Farmers Organizations and Civil Society must be pursued.

Policy changes must be made at all levels to ensure a coordinated and sustainable transformation. We need legal frameworks that protect fair prices for food producers and consumers; promote agro-ecological and sustainable agriculture; internalise external costs and benefits into food prices; and implement land tenure reforms.

With a view to foster country-level implementation, the UN should provide support, upon request, in the assessment of national or regional agriculture and food systems in order to identify actions to attain the Post-2015 Goals and allocate resources efficiently and effectively.

Progress on the Post-2015 Goals needs to be measured and monitored by independent bodies with the relevant knowledge, competence and capabilities. In the field of food security and sustainable agriculture, the Committee on World Food Security in Rome, in cooperation with relevant UN bodies, as the foremost participatory body in this realm, might be best suited to provide a platform and stewardship for this purpose.

Based on the lessons learned from the MDGs, progress assessments should be prepared by the relevant UN bodies (FAO, IFAD, WFP, HLPE of the CFS) or multi-stakeholder expert groups in a transparent process with input from all relevant stakeholders – especially small-scale farmers, women, and marginalized groups.