



United Nations
Brussels

SAVING AND IMPROVING LIVES

United Nations - European Union
Partnership for food and nutrition security 2008-2012



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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September 2013

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Cover Photo:

 **Burundi.** A female farmer consulting with an instructor in a Farmer Field School garden.

© FAO, 2010, Giulio Napolitano.

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THE UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DECLARATION AND MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AGREED IN 2000

GUIDE OUR ACTION:

“...certain fundamental values [are] essential to international relations in the 21st Century: Freedom ... Equality ... Solidarity ... Tolerance ... Respect for nature ... Shared responsibility...”




United Nations Secretary-General

This eighth annual report on the partnership between the United Nations and the European Union focuses on the critical field of food and nutrition security. It reflects how the United Nations and the European Union closely collaborated to abate the harmful effects of the global food crisis of 2007-2008 by strengthening the resilience of affected communities and improving their food security. By joining forces, we were able to maximise our respective strengths and work with partner countries and communities to benefit millions of people.



During the five-year period covered by the report, the United Nations and the European Union delivered food assistance in crisis situations and enhanced the food security and nutritional status of vulnerable people across the world. With assistance from the European Union Food Facility, we also enabled small landholders to increase agricultural production and minimise the impact of rising food prices.

Addressing hunger and achieving food security are central to meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As we approach the 2015 deadline, we are also shaping a universal development agenda for the following decades to eliminate extreme poverty and hunger and promote sustainable development. At this critical time, I commend this report to all those interested in strengthening global efforts towards these ends.


Ban Ki-moon

President of the European Commission



The European Union and the United Nations form a natural team in promoting development, human rights and peace. We share the same objectives, as set out in the UN Charter.

Within the framework of our cooperation, it gives me great pleasure to present this eighth report on the results of the UN-EU partnership, which focuses this time on food and nutrition security from 2008 to 2012. These results have been achieved through the joint efforts of the EU and the UN in a relationship that combines policy vision and programmatic collaboration.

Since 2008, the EU, the UN and the international community have demonstrated their ability to collectively respond to food crises – indeed, the UN has recognised our contribution by awarding the EU the Diouf prize for our work on the Food Facility.

Implementation of the EU Food Facility € 1 billion programme could not have happened without the UN. Our response has progressed: what at first appeared to be a reaction to a crisis has now become a more strategic and long-term approach. This is the approach the EU has adopted in its policy framework ‘An Agenda for Change’.

Through policy initiatives promoting resilience at the level of countries, communities and individuals, and through the incorporation of nutrition across sectors, the EU is promoting sustainable agriculture and addressing food security in a coherent way.

We are determined to continue working together in close collaboration with developing countries. It is crucial that the poorest economies are not left behind. Our UN-EU partnership is an essential component in our efforts to work towards a post-2015 agenda which ensures a better world for all.

I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the United Nations for this report which provides a remarkable overview of our cooperation in the field of food and nutrition security.



José Manuel Durão Barroso

High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

It is a pleasure for me to introduce this report on the UN-EU Partnership in 2012. This year, the report focuses on “Food and Nutrition security 2008-2012”.

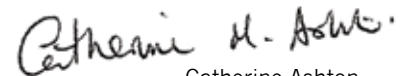
The European Union and the United Nations have a long-standing and unique cooperation that has been further strengthened by the creation of the European External Action Service.

UN-EU cooperation encompasses the whole range of UN activities: Peace and Security, Sustainable Development and Human Rights, the three interconnected pillars of the UN.

This year’s report illustrates one crucial aspect of the EU’s comprehensive approach: the way in which we provide concrete help to improve food security. Simultaneously, on the diplomatic level and through our crisis management missions and our support to UN peacekeeping, we help to bring peace to countries haunted by war and violent conflict. Our support to human rights is a precondition for ensuring lasting peace.

Working at the UN, we must ensure that the issues of hunger and food and nutrition security are well reflected in the post-2015 framework for poverty reduction and sustainable development. The EU is proud to be in the forefront of this effort.




Catherine Ashton

United Nations Director in Brussels



Food security and adequate nutrition have been a major preoccupation of the international community in the past decades, but have become an even greater challenge in the last years, as a consequence of the extraordinary food price rise of 2008. The right to food, recognised in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is still far from being realised for every human being. Significant progress has been achieved, however population growth, the situations of conflict and fragility, and the effects of climate change, are some of the factors which aggravate food insecurity especially in developing countries. Therefore, protracted and intensive efforts will be required for many years to come by local communities, national governments and the international cooperation to reach zero hunger and adequate nutrition for all. This is and must be a feasible objective in the framework of the post-2015 development agenda.

The UN High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on the Global Food Security Crisis has called for resolute commitment to halt food insecurity through a “Comprehensive Framework for Action”. The EU also responded to the global food crisis of 2008, that posed a major threat to the world’s most vulnerable populations, through a newly established Food Facility. The European Union and the United Nations have worked together to boost national efforts to implement the HLTF action plan.

In this eighth annual report, the UN Team in Brussels shows through the concrete results realised and a collection of emblematic human stories what has been achieved and the difference that the UN-EU collaboration has made in the lives of millions of people.



Antonio Vigilante

EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response

Food and nutrition security is a priority for the EU and it is a very clear personal priority for me: As Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, I am confronted on a daily basis with the dramatic effects created by food and nutrition insecurity, especially on young children. We cannot accept that this silent killer takes the lives of the poorest or steals the future away from children. So we are working together with our partners to meet the acute food and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable and at the same time to help build a resilient future for them. The UN family is a crucial partner for us in this endeavour. Every year we save millions of people from under-nutrition and hunger thanks to this cooperation. We make sure that we do so in the most efficient and effective way possible, applying innovative tools such as cash and vouchers, which bring more value for money and allow us to help a larger number of vulnerable people with the funds that are available.



Kristalina Georgieva

EU Commissioner for Development Cooperation



The European Union is the main donor in food security, committing more than € 1 billion per year and it intends to remain deeply involved in the sector over the next 10 years. The EU intends to support some 50 countries, including 40 in Africa, in establishing food security and reducing stunting. The EU Communication *'Enhancing maternal and child nutrition in external assistance: an EU policy framework'* underscores the commitment of the EU to support partner countries in their efforts to reduce stunting in children under five by at least 10% of the World Health Assembly 2 goal by 2025. This has been complemented by the announcement, in June of this year, that the EU will spend € 3.5 billion on nutrition related activities between now and 2020. The EU will also work with other donors, partner countries and scientific institutions in enhancing accountability, both through tracking investments in nutrition and in measuring the impact of those investments.



Andris Piebalgs

President of the European Parliament

The European Parliament is an increasingly pro-active player on the international scene and takes a share of the Union's global responsibility. It makes sound recommendations for global policy actions, enters into regular dialogue with state and non-state actors, co-decides on Union legislation with global impact and adopts, together with the Council, the EU budget including large financial contributions to the UN system. It remains entirely committed to global interaction and therefore promotes ever closer cooperation between the EU and the UN in order for them to live up to their responsibilities as decisive multilateral actors in the fields ranging inter alia from development policy, human rights and climate change over peace-building, humanitarian assistance, the rule of law, election observation to global health concerns, labour issues and culture. While significant progress could be made in many of those fields, we continue also to witness rising inequalities between and within countries, and intensifying global challenges.



I strongly welcome that one of the main global concerns of our times, food and nutrition security, has been selected as the main theme of the 2013 UN-EU Partnership Report. The European Parliament fully shares the concern that fighting hunger and reducing under-nutrition are crucial to global development and therefore should be a vital action of our successful cooperation framework.

I look forward to a continuous and fruitful engagement in protecting lives, safeguarding human rights and advancing development. The present publication, already the eighth report, is a further demonstration of close EU-UN collaboration the world is expecting us to pursue for the common good of all citizens.


Martin Schulz

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Introduction

World food prices rose sharply in 2008. There was a dramatic increase in the numbers of people who are poor, experiencing chronic hunger and at risk of malnutrition. The UN High-Level Task Force on Global Food Security developed a Comprehensive Framework for Action to meet the immediate needs of vulnerable populations and contribute to longer-term resilience of food security.

» **Bangladesh.** A beneficiary of a UN fisheries project, standing near his home.
© FAO, 2010, Munir Uz Zaman.

This report highlights examples of what the EU and the UN delivered together over a five year period to improve food and nutrition security

Kenya. Hellen Atiir and her family were once nomads. Due to frequent droughts, lack of pasture, and insecurity, they decided to settle into a sedentary lifestyle and began rain-fed farming. Families in the Turkana region have been supported to participate in a minor irrigation scheme that has greatly increased their drought resilience.

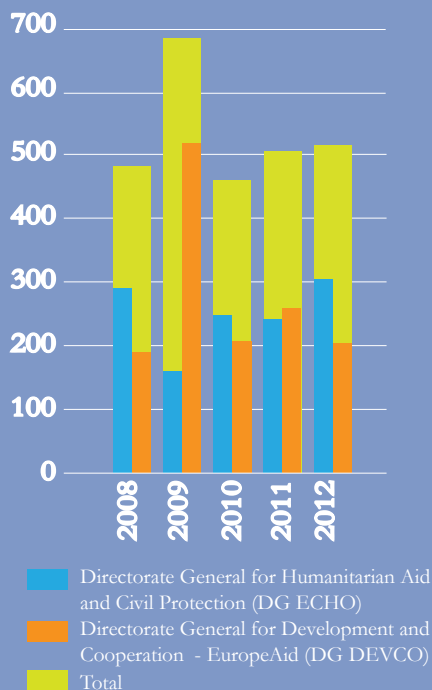
© WFP, 2012, Rein Skullerud.



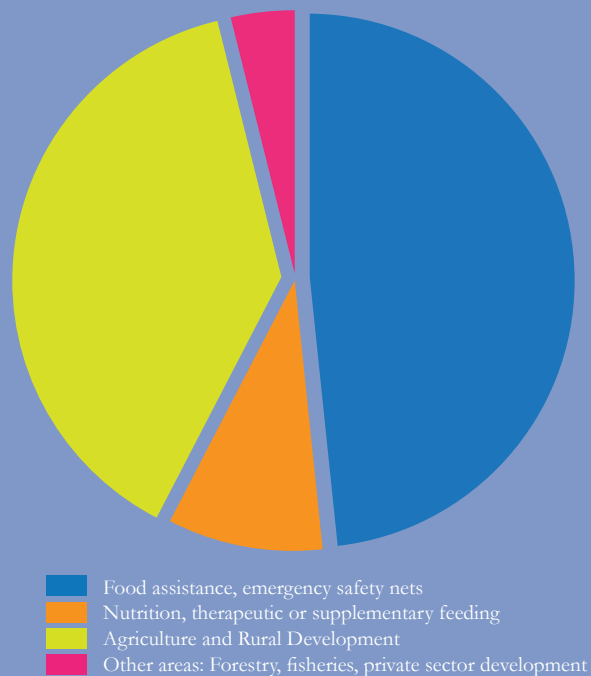
Following the food price hike in 2008, the international community has increased its investment in food and nutrition security. In December 2008, the EU established a 1 billion Food Facility instrument in response to the effects of the food crisis. Recently, it launched two additional initiatives in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel.

The UN has been a long-standing partner in this endeavour. From 2008 to 2012, the EU channelled over € 2.63 billion through the UN for food and nutrition security, including € 480 million from the EU Food Facility. Most funding was devoted to emergency food assistance (over € 1.2 billion), agriculture (over € 1 billion), and nutrition (€ 245 million).

EU funding to the UN for food and nutrition security (2008-2012)



Thematic breakdown EU support to the UN for food and nutrition security (2008-2012)



Source: United Nations Brussels office based on European Commission data, 2009-2013.

EU Food Facility contributions to UN Agencies

UN Agency	Countries	Total funding (in million €)
FAO	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, CAR, DRC, Eritrea, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Eritrea, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Rinderpest eradication programme	237,994,173
IFAD	Madagascar, Mozambique, ECOWAS regional programme	51,682,272
UNDP	Bangladesh, Cuba, Eritrea, Liberia	25,693,139
UNFPA	Niger	2,000,000
UNICEF	Mali, Niger, Liberia	16,229,000
UNOPS	Myanmar	23,400,000
UNRWA	Occupied Palestinian Territories	39,700,00
WFP	Bangladesh, Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, Liberia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone	83,877,892
TOTAL		480,576,476



Fighting hunger and enhancing safety nets

Hunger and malnutrition are the greatest threats to public health, killing more people than HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined. This is particularly acute in countries affected by conflict and natural disasters. In many places, climate change is exacerbating already adverse natural conditions.

- 8 **Nepal.** A group of previously food-insecure women in the village of Moya work on 1.25 ha of leased land to grow chili and garlic. With their earnings they bought cereals for their families and invested in subsequent crops.
© FAO, 2010, Munir Uz Zaman.

Emergency food assistance and social safety nets play an important role in helping stabilise the situation of high risk populations



80 **Niger.** Women selling foodstuffs to a customer at the Maradi Market, Marad region.
© FAO, 2013, Giulio Napolitano.

Reaching MDG Targets

The high number of 870 million people suffering from hunger in the world remains unacceptable and a major global challenge. The vast majority lives in the rural areas of developing countries.

During the past 20 years, the prevalence of chronically undernourished people in the world has reduced from 23.2% to 12.5%, but progress has slowed since the 2007-2008 food prices hike.

It may be possible to reach the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of halving the prevalence of hunger at the global level if appropriate actions are taken to reverse the slow-down in progress. Increased finance and resources is a prerequisite for progress in the eradication of hunger.

The UN and the EU managed emergency situations together



80 **Syria.** A boy who had just returned home with his family, sits amid the debris of war in Homs. Humanitarian needs, especially food, grew enormously in 2012, as large numbers of Syrians were forced to flee their homes. © WFP, 2012, Ahnna Gudmunds.

We delivered food aid to people in over 35 countries

- Food assistance was dispatched to 2.25 million conflict affected Syrians. While needs continue to increase, we prepare for further scale up.
- Assistance was provided to 2.7 million people in **South Sudan** through general food distributions, nutrition and food-for-assets interventions. 10% of South Sudanese experience seasonal food insecurity.
- Provision of relief after the 2010 **Pakistan** floods was ensured to over 8.7 million people through food-based programmes designed to help them rebuild their livelihoods.
- Food aid was dispatched to over 1 million people following the 2010 **Haiti** earthquake.
- Food assistance was granted to nearly 1.3 million people in Yangon and the Ayeyarwady Delta after cyclone Nargis hit **Myanmar** in May 2008.
- In addition to catastrophes, we also respond to persistent and forgotten crises such as providing support to 90,000 Saharawi refugees in the Tindouf camps in **Algeria**.

In 2012, for the fourth time in a decade, a severe drought and a failed harvest left 18 million people without enough food in the Sahel. A global initiative facilitated by the EU (Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative, AGIR) was launched to promote greater population resilience and ensure the link between emergency and long-term development. Working with the EU, the UN coordinated the humanitarian response to the latest food crisis in the Sahel.

- 🍲 **Niger.** A mother receives a food ration. This type of food package normally contains the supplementary food Super Cereal and cooking oil.
© WFP, 2012, Rein Skullerud.



We assisted over 8 million people in the Sahel, including 1 million infants at risk of malnutrition and 500,000 pregnant and breast-feeding mothers:


- In **Niger**, we supported 3.6 million people with food-cash and nutrition support, including 770,000 infants through supplementary breast-feeding.
- Following the conflict in **Northern Mali**, we are providing food assistance to 375,000 Malians, including 145,000 refugees in **Mauritania, Burkina Faso** and **Niger**. In food insecure areas of Mali, we also supported over 100,000 agro-pastoralists to build up their resilience through provision of food aid and a cash-for-asset intervention.
- In **Burkina Faso**, we supported 900,000 people through targeted food assistance and cash-for-assets initiatives and provided supplementary feeding to 630,000 undernourished infants.
- In **Chad**, we reduced malnutrition of 300,000 children under five and 70,000 pregnant and lactating mothers through treatment and prevention activities. Through the UN Humanitarian Air Services, we continue to provide safe transport services to the humanitarian community.



“

Chad: From refugee to farmer. Pascal Djera is still shaken by emotion when he recalls his flight from the war in the Central African Republic years ago. “I was separated from my children and lost a lot of time to find them – others died.” Pascal fled to the South of Chad and now lives in a refugee camp with his family. After their arrival, he and other refugees received humanitarian aid provided by the UN and the EU. Both organisations set up initiatives to help the refugees rebuild their lives. A special food security project supported refugees in three camps as well as Chadians living in 22 surrounding villages in Nya Pende, a poor rural area. Today, Pascal Djera proudly presents the two bulls he received under a joint UN-EU project: “Thanks to these two bulls, we could grow sorghum, peanuts, sesame, potatoes”, he explains. This allows him and his family to lead a more dignified life in a refugee camp that is more and more becoming like a normal village.

Thanks to these
two bulls, we
could grow
sorghum, peanuts,
sesame and
potatoes

 **Chad.** Portrait of Pascal Djera in the refugee camps in Nya Pendé province.
© UNHCR, 2013, Alexis Duclos.



Around 10 million people face recurrent hunger and malnutrition across the Horn of Africa.

In 2011, the EU launched a joint humanitarian-development initiative (Supporting the Horn of Africa's Resilience, SHARE) to improve the ability of people, communities and countries to face persistent and acute emergencies. The initiative aims to boost resilience by addressing recovery from drought through: building on emergency interventions; strengthening livelihood opportunities of agro-pastoralist communities; improving public services; and boosting the response to crises.

- ✎ **Somalia.** People waiting in a food distribution line. Aid delivery is being hampered in the country due to security concerns.
© WFP, 2011, Rein Skullerud.

Over the last five years, we fought hunger in the Horn of Africa

- In **Ethiopia**, a country where 14 million people suffer from food shortages, we provided food assistance to over 3.4 million Ethiopians and 340,000 Somali, Eritrean and Sudanese refugees.
- The number of people in need of food assistance in **Somalia** increased to 3.7 million in 2012. By mid-2012, we reached 1.5 million in Mogadishu and the Northern and central parts of the country.
- In the arid and semi-arid lands of **Kenya**, over 1.5 million people received relief food commodities. 500,000 children under five, and 140,000 women benefited from supplementary feeding. Interventions are now transitioning from short-term to recovery activities such as Food and Cash-for-Assets. We also continue to support the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps in Kenya. In Dadaab, we provided supplementary feeding to some 90,000 children under the age of five to prevent worsening malnutrition.

The EU is a strong supporter of UN efforts to assist 5 million Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and the West Bank



☞ **Palestine.** A food distribution centre in Gaza. The price of food increased by 34% from 2006 to 2011, owing to restrictions on the import of food and the surge in global food prices in 2008.
© UNRWA, 2009, John Torday.

We responded to the food needs of the Palestine refugees

- Food aid and cash subsidies were delivered on a quarterly basis to about 300,000 vulnerable Palestine refugees in the **Occupied Palestine Territory, Lebanon, Syria** and **Jordan**. We also provided ad-hoc assistance to special hardship groups, such as pregnant women and nursing mothers, who encountered difficulties for the procurement of basic food commodities.
- We granted emergency food assistance to around 700,000 Gazans on a yearly basis. 80% of **Gaza's** 1.6 million population relies on food aid to survive.
- In the **West Bank**, we provided temporary job opportunities, through cash-for-work initiatives to around 12,500 vulnerable Palestinians living inside and around the 19 refugee camps established in the West Bank. Limited employment opportunities are one of the leading reasons for the rise of food insecurity in Palestine.
- In the aftermath of the conflict in the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in **Northern Lebanon** in 2007, we continuously provide food aid to around 24,000 displaced Palestine refugees.



“

Gaza: “Should I work for food or should I study? Mr. Al Fayoumi used to be able to buy nutritious food for his children. Since 2006, and due to the tight blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip, the private sector has collapsed, leaving him and the vast majority of the population unemployed or underemployed. The 1.2 million Palestine refugees are particularly exposed to abject poverty and food insecurity. With funding from the EU Food Facility, a UN social safety-net programme helped these most vulnerable refugees and ensured that families did not need to take dangerous measures such as cutting down on their meals or on their children. Youth did not have to choose either between working for money or getting an education.

Palestine refugees
are exposed to
abject poverty and
food insecurity

- 80 **Palestine.** A man collects supplementary food aid for his family from a distribution centre in Gaza. Families are often forced to reduce the quality or quantity of food in order to meet unexpected expenses.
© UNRWA, 2012, Shareef Sarhan.

The cash/food-for-work initiatives and voucher schemes are used globally to enable vulnerable populations to cope with emergencies and the global food crisis impact



📌 **Senegal.** Near the capital Dakar, an EU-funded cash and voucher scheme is offering a lifeline to some 17,000 needy families. Many recipients were forced to flee their homes during a three-decade-old conflict in the Southern Casamance area.
© WFP, 2010, Mbacke Diop.

From 2008 to 2012, we strengthened safety nets

- In **Bangladesh**, food and cash-for-work schemes benefitted more than 607,000 people through short-term employment provided to 121,000 marginal and landless agricultural workers.
- In **Senegal**, food-for-assets and cash transfer programmes reached over 1.16 million impoverished people, enhancing their food security.
- In **Eritrea**, 25,000 displaced people affected by the war with Ethiopia in the late 90's participated in a cash-for-work programme enabling a more productive life.
- In **Côte d'Ivoire**, 40,500 children enrolled in primary schools benefitted from the support granted to school canteens.
- In **Northern Uganda**, nearly 43,000 vulnerable returned internally displaced people participated in voucher-for-work schemes.
- In **Sudan**, 370,000 people participated in a cash voucher programme in North and West Darfur. 122,400 conflict affected people also benefitted from food distribution in Darfur and South Kordofan.



66

Liberia: Women's cooperative builds bonds and local economy. Martha Dakay understands about people's power. Before, she struggled to feed her family by only growing cassava. That changed when Dakay created with other farmers a women-run agricultural cooperative in her town of Tappita. Besides cassava, the 280-member group grows peanuts, corn and rice. Not only are they feeding their families, but now these farmers are also mobilising unemployed youth to rehabilitate overgrown swampland as part of a UN-EU supported development scheme. "This project has strengthened our group. We produce more and households have more money", says Dakay. The farmers have constructed a concrete spillway to control flooding for irrigation purposes. The cash and food received for their labour helped tide them over during the lean period between harvests and pay for children's schooling. They also got seeds and fertilisers, along with training and equipment. "The project has created a market for us", says Betty Digoliah, another farmer who hopes the cooperative will soon buy a rice mill with its profits.

Before, she
struggled to feed
her family by only
growing cassava

 **Liberia.** Members of the farmers' cooperative planting the fields in Bong county.
© WFP, 2010, Maran Namah.



Saving lives through improved nutrition

The problem of malnutrition is vastly under-appreciated, largely because poor nutrition is often mistaken for a lack of food. In reality, malnutrition and its irreversible health consequences also affect relatively well-off countries, where there is plenty of food, but access to it is unequal and nutritional

content can be low. It is caused, amongst others, by inadequate knowledge related to infant feeding and safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

» **Niger.** Six-month-old Maniratou receives timely nutrition and growth screenings.
© UNICEF, 2012, Quaryma.



Children who suffer from wasting, an acute health problem caused by under-nutrition, face an increased risk of death. Malnutrition can also have long-term health consequences on vulnerable populations, especially young children aged 0 to 5 years, pregnant and breast-feeding women.

✎ **Bangladesh.** A community worker takes measurement of a child arm to check for malnutrition.

© UNICEF, 2013.

The challenge of under-nutrition

If not addressed, malnutrition can permanently stunt mental and physical growth in the first years of a child's life.

- Under-nutrition causes 45% of all deaths of children under five, representing over 3 million deaths each year. In 2011, it caused 3.1 million out of 6.9 million child deaths.
- In 2011, 52 million of children under five were moderately or severely wasted, an 11% decrease as compared to 1990.
- In 2011, 26% of children under five (165 million) were stunted. Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are home to three-quarters of the world's stunted children.

To tackle these challenges, the World Health Assembly endorsed in 2012 a Comprehensive Implementation Plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition. This ambitious plan identifies six relevant global under-nutrition targets for 2025. The EU has aligned its policy framework on nutrition with those targets.

Through the UN-EU partnership we ensured **nutrition security** in emergency contexts, supported community programmes focusing on children's survival, delivered micronutrients to enhance nutritional value of food, and improved family early care practices. Successful nutrition interventions include: improving women's nutrition before, during and after pregnancy; early and exclusive breastfeeding for first 6 months; timely and quality complementary feeding for 6-24 months; and adequate intake of micronutrients.

- 📍 **Bangladesh.** Health workers go house-to-house distributing packets of micronutrient powder.
© UNICEF, 2009, Shehzad Noorani.



Emergency nutrition interventions saved millions

- In **Chad**, we helped 880,000 young children through detection and referrals of the malnourished to health facilities, treatment of severe acute malnutrition, promotion of family behaviours, micronutrient supplementation and maternal care.
- In **Ethiopia**, we treated over 120,000 children in Therapeutic Feeding Centres.
- In the **Sahel**, only in 2012, we treated over 925,000 children against severe acute malnutrition, provided advice to mothers for care practices of young children, supported over 5,200 health facilities, and supplied 12.7 metric tonnes of ready-to-use therapeutic food.
- In **Somalia**, we supported the treatment of 458,000 severely malnourished children.
- In **Pakistan**, we screened 630,000 children for malnutrition and delivered micro-nutrient supplementation to 901,000 infants.



“

Saving children's lives in Pakistan. Nightat Bibi is from a remote village in Sanghar district. A mother of five, she knows all too well how vulnerable a malnourished child is to disease and death. Nightat is still haunted by how quickly bouts of diarrhoea deteriorated her four-year-old son's health. “I would have lost Fazal if his nutritional situation was not managed fast and effectively,” she says. She is now a self-appointed nutrition promoter in her village. The 2011 floods in Pakistan led to a cycle of malnutrition that struck children of all ages. In the aftermath, the UN-EU have supported community mobilisation teams across Punjab and Sindh provinces reaching small isolated villages, to identify malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women. The teams provide vital nutritional support, such as take-home supplies of ready-to-use therapeutic food, and medicines, and support breast-feeding, basic nutrition and good hygiene practices. These services are essential for mothers like Nightat who have other young children to take care of and little money for medical facilities.

“I would have lost Fazal if his nutritional situation was not managed fast and effectively”

- 8 **Pakistan.** A woman holds her malnourished baby at a health centre in Sindh province. Community health workers referred her to the centre, which gave the mother instructions on diet and household behaviours.
© UNICEF, 2012, Khurram.

We helped children under six and pregnant and breast-feeding women to mitigate the effects of the food price crisis



80 **Niger.** Distribution of dignity kits to women of the flood-affected village of Bagara (Diffa). The rapid demographic growth constitutes an underlying factor of malnutrition among women and children. With EU support, the UN engaged in a partnership with the Government to improve maternal and neonatal health in a context of food insecurity.

© UNFPA, 2013, Nounou Maman.

The EU Food Facility helped improve family nutrition

- In **Mali**, we delivered vitamin A supplementation and de-worming treatment to 2.8 million children. 63,000 Malian children with severe acute malnutrition were treated in specialised health units.
- In **Niger**, we provided treatment to 680,000 severely undernourished children under five, and reached 107,000 families through behavioural change campaigns on nutrition practices. 90,000 women benefited from emergency obstetric and newborn care, and the uptake of modern contraception was improved by integrating family planning in the basic package of health services offered across the country.
- In **Liberia**, we delivered drugs to treat parasitic worms to 437,000 children aged 12-59 months and micro-nutrients to 46,000 pregnant women. 730 health service providers and volunteers were trained in nutrition improvement practices.



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Lao PDR: Fighting against malnutrition. Lao PDR has one of the highest consumptions of rice per capita in the world. Even the word ‘eat’ translates directly as ‘eat rice’. While rice is a rich source of energy, it does not contain all nutrients for good health. An over-reliance on rice leaves children among the most undernourished in South-East Asia. Sing Sanyalad of Tongwai health centre diagnoses and treats malnutrition on a daily basis. “Parents aren’t feeding their children properly because they don’t know about nutrition,” he explains, “and when the children get sick, they don’t know why.” He adds, “That’s why it’s important to screen every child in rural villages for malnutrition.” Mr. Sing and his team work with more than 200 health workers across the three provinces most heavily affected by malnutrition to identify and treat severely malnourished children. Based in health centres, they also provide outreach to distant villages. There, they work closely with community volunteers who diagnose malnutrition at an early stage. The screening and treatment operations are part of a joint UN-EU programme.

An over-reliance on rice leaves children undernourished

- 80 **Lao PDR.** Using a flipchart, a worker from Health Poverty Action conducts a community nutrition workshop for expecting mothers at Navienhong village in Saravan Province.
© UNICEF, 2012, Shehzad Noorani.



Nutrition, tradition and culture

As part of safeguarding living heritage in the Mediterranean, communities in Jordan and Egypt identified traditional know-how for quality nutrition.

In Jordan, they identified the preparation and sharing of a traditional dish named “Mansaf” as a strong element of their cultural identity which gathers the whole community. In Egypt, a traditional technique to make bread with a clay oven named “Meifa” was inventoried as part of the living heritage of communities in the Damietta region.

- » **Palestine.** Tasting bread in the West Bank. Some families cut down on food intake or send their children to work to compensate for food insecurity.
© UNRWA, 2011, Alaa Ghosheh.



Supporting urgent increases in food availability

People who rely on agriculture for their livelihoods are often the worst affected when a crisis or a disaster strikes, potentially putting their food and nutrition security at risk. The

UN and the EU work together in post-disaster and emergency situations to ensure the rehabilitation of agricultural livelihoods.

8 **Rwanda.** Villagers carrying food in Burera seen through eucalyptus trees.
© FAO, 2008, Giulio Napolitano.

In countries affected by conflict and natural hazards, we helped restore food production and reduce food aid dependency



📍 **Peru.** Llamas grazing at Machupicchu archeological area. The UN has been supporting vulnerable Andean highland communities affected by extreme weather conditions to restore agricultural production.
© FAO, R. Grisolia.

After emergencies, we provided tools, seeds and other agricultural inputs in nearly 40 countries

- In **Pakistan**, we provided seeds, emergency livestock and training in better farming practices to 92,000 flood-affected households.
- In **Sri Lanka**, we delivered paddy seeds to 11,000 vulnerable flood-affected farmers who produced 41,000 tons of paddy rice.
- In **Burundi**, we distributed sweet potato, beans and sorghum seeds on a yearly basis to 60,000-80,000 conflict-affected households so they can re-start agricultural production.
- In the Andean regions of **Peru** and **Bolivia**, we provided fodder to 11,000 llama and 8,700 alpaca owner families affected by extreme weather conditions.



We also helped create alternative livelihoods

- In **Niger**, we provided animal feed, livestock vaccines and vegetable kits to 99,000 households; and restored degraded pasture through a cash-for-work initiative benefitting 42,000 people.
- In **Ethiopia**, we distributed seeds and planting materials to 76,000 farming households, and carried out animal health interventions, including livestock vaccination, benefitting 292,000 pastoralist households.
- In **Sudan**, we supplied seeds and agricultural tools to 296,000 vulnerable households.
- In **Haiti**, we supported 19,000 households to improve staple foods production, through distribution of vegetable seeds, tools and livestock, training on improved agricultural practices, and construction of small hydro-agricultural infrastructure.

∞ **Ethiopia.** To promote food security of populations living in drought-prone areas, support is being provided to diversify cropping patterns, promote drought-resistant crops and develop alternative income-generating products.
© FAO, 2011, Astrid Randen.



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The wealth of animals - Holding on to the pastoral life. With diminishing resources for growing numbers, pressure is mounting on pastoralist people. Gabbra people in Kenya's arid region are determined to maintain their way of life. One morning, Thalasso Badage, a young woman, prepares her camel and goats for a two hour walk to the rain basin of Afkaba. Men go out to graze the camels, while women fetch water for the house and the

As long as there is
rainwater and pasture for
the animals, they will stay

goats. They set up their huts a month ago after coming from the Huri Hills 30 km east. Now, as long as there is rainwater and pasture for the animals, they will stay. The EU and the UN harnessed the precious water of Afkaba. A basin was desalted and a dam constructed, the pipeline was built, first to a tap, where women fill up their containers, and further down to a trough for the livestock. "Animals are our wealth," says community elder Laga Wato, stressing the importance of the basin. "If there's no rain, there's no pasture, and without pasture, there's no livestock and that's the end of us pastoralists," he says.

 **Kenya.** A herder leads his livestock to drink in a waterpoint in Garissa, in the arid region of the country.
© FAO, 2011, Thomas Hug.



Most poor people living in rural areas in developing countries depend on agriculture. Farmers are thus central to any global food security solution

- Smallholder farmers and their families account for 2 billion people, or one third of global population.
- 450 million farms, or 85% of farms worldwide, measure less than two hectares. Most smallholder farmers are net buyers of food and live on less than US\$ 2 a day.
- Their capacity to produce more food is constrained because they cannot afford inputs, such as fertiliser, and veterinary drugs and services.

☞ **Senegal.** A beneficiary from an agricultural project transferring water from a well into a concrete tank while working in her family cabbage garden.

© FAO, 2012, Simon Maina.



Bridging the gap between emergency and development

The EU Food Facility (EUFF) aimed to mitigate the impact of food price volatility and increase agricultural productivity in developing countries. This € 1 billion instrument bridged the gap between emergency aid and medium to long-term development aid. Designed in partnership with the UN High-Level Task Force on Global Food Security, almost half of the budget was channelled through the UN. By providing quality seeds and fertilisers, improving and building infrastructure, and reducing the impact of natural calamities, we improved the food security and nutrition of over 22 million of the most vulnerable people in 35 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

An independent evaluation conducted after the closure of the EUFF concluded that the channelling of funds through UN organisations, with a presence at country level and with well established direct relations with the Ministries of Agriculture, facilitated the quick identification of interventions in line with national policies and strategies. It also enabled rapid disbursement of funds by the EU and a timely response and delivery of support in cases where this would otherwise have been difficult or impossible.

- 8 **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** Women farmers working on a spinach and carrot crop of a Farmer Field School. The school teaches farmers improved techniques including the use of natural fertilisers and organic alternatives to pesticides.
© FAO, 2011, Olivier Asselin.

To address the effects of the food crisis, we improved smallholders' agricultural production through inputs distribution, often linked to capacity building actions



- ☛ **Guatemala.** Project funded by the EU Food Facility. Increasing food supply to the market and subsistence production helped reduce the impact of food-price rises on the most vulnerable population groups in 16 municipalities in the departments of El Quiché, Alta and Baja Verapaz.
© FAO, 2010.

Through the EU Food Facility, we helped increase agricultural production in over 30 countries

- In **Guinea-Bissau**, we dispatched seeds, fertilisers, tools and training to 38,000 farms.
- In **Zambia**, we trained 180,000 farmers in conservation agriculture principles increasing maize production by about 30%.
- In **Burkina Faso**, we provided quality seeds and fertilisers to 247,000 households.
- In **Guatemala**, we strengthened agricultural productivity and marketing capacity of 14,000 smallholders (increase of 2.1 to 3.5 tons/hectare was achieved).



Through the EU Food Facility, we also improved farmer networks

- In **Zimbabwe**, we supplied seeds and fertiliser packs to around 10% of the country's communal farmers (some 176,000 households), doubling their average maize yield.
- In **Niger**, we helped a network of cooperative shops to provide inputs to 56,000 farmers.
- In **Pakistan**, 17,000 tons of crops inputs were distributed to over 94,000 farms.
- In **Liberia**, we supported 10,700 rice farmers and 9,100 vegetable growers to produce 13,500 tons of paddy rice and surplus vegetables for consumption and income generation by providing seeds, fertilisers and tools.
- In **Nepal**, food availability was increased through provision of seed and fertiliser packages and agricultural training to 600,000 people.

➤ **Liberia.** A farmer harvesting rice. Through the EU Food Facility, the UN contributed to increased rice production by Liberian farmers.

© FAO, Georges Gobet.



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Myanmar farmers tune into the crop exchange. Radio broadcasts funded by the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT) in Myanmar help farmers by giving them timely and accurate market news. Inadequate access to information was previously undermining incomes in rural communities and in some cases causing poverty. Established in 2009, LIFT is a multi-donor fund managed by the UN and supported by the EU. The fund assisted 1.5 million people in the country. Among other interventions, LIFT supported more than 6,500 households to improve their agricultural techniques, provided low interest credit to more than 65,000 farmers, and delivered cash to 36,500 food insecure families through cash-for-work.

The LIFT fund assisted 1.5 million people

 **Myanmar.** Planting paddy in the Ayeyarwady region.
© UNOPS, 2011, Aye Zaw Myo.



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Nepal: Rehabilitation of irrigation systems increase agricultural production.

Nepal struggles with the bitter reality of grinding poverty and hunger, affecting about 3.5 million people. High food prices and a crippled global economy, along with a harsh terrain and geographic isolation, have contributed to suffering in this landlocked country. EU funds support UN projects in irrigation and drinking water systems to improve agricultural production and bring potable water to villages. An example is the 7.3 km irrigation canal that was rehabilitated and

Irrigation systems
help meet food and
livelihood needs

re-constructed in far-western Nepal. The irrigation system is now used by local women farmers for planting crops and growing vegetables, meeting the food and livelihood needs of the community, which includes around 575 households.

- 80 **Nepal.** Local women farmers planting crops thanks to the reconstructed irrigation canals in Basudevi village, Doti district.
© WFP, 2011, Deepesh Shrestha.



☞ **Myanmar.** Farmers practise using a drum-seeder for seeding of upland paddy. A food security programme in the Southern Shan State changed lives for impoverished rural communities affected by rapid opium eradication.
© UNODC, 2011, Myint Maung.

We applied small-scale measures to increase agricultural production

- In **Eritrea**, 30,500 war and drought-affected households were supported through the construction of small-scale agricultural infrastructure (micro-dam, ten ponds, eight cisterns), and the distribution of quality drought-resistant seeds.
- In **Liberia**, 5,000 farmers and unemployed youth participated in a food and cash-for-work initiative to build and turn 1,200 hectares of war abandoned swampland into productive fields.
- In **Laos** and **Myanmar**, we improved the food security of some 6,300 former opium poppy growing households through the distribution of agricultural inputs and livestock, the improvement of community infrastructure, and the provision of support for income-generating activities.
- In the Chittagong Hills Tracts of **Bangladesh**, the construction of 927 rice banks, the improvement of market facilities in nine locations and strengthened Farmer Field Schools helped 148,000 people improve their food security and agricultural productivity.



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Southern Philippines: Conflict affected farmers increase rice production. Filipino farmers can now enjoy an increased harvest thanks to UN-EU support that assisted rice production in areas that were once destroyed by armed conflict. EU funds helped 954,000 people in the Southern Philippines island of Mindanao, who fled their homes during the fighting between Government forces and separatist groups in 2008-09. The

Displaced residents
returned home and started
the daunting process of
rebuilding

UN programme empowered communities and promoted self-sufficiency in Central Mindanao, as displaced residents returned home and started the daunting process of rebuilding their lives.

 **Philippines.** Farmers working in rice lands in the Southern island of Mindanao.
© WFP, 2011, Fahima Abdulaziz.



Sustaining long-term food availability

By 2050, the world has to increase food production by 60% to meet the increased demand of 9 billion people.

However, the productivity of most of the world's farmers is still far below what could be achieved. This “yield gap” is explained among other factors by the inability of farmers to purchase productivity-enhancing inputs, the lack of knowledge and training opportunities, and the absence of adequate technologies and infrastructure.

Rehabilitation, building and modernisation of rural and agricultural infrastructure can help accelerate agricultural productivity growth. Improving irrigation and water resource management is vital to raise crop yields and household income. Rural transport networks can reduce transport and transaction costs for farmers. Storage and market infrastructure contribute to reduce post-harvest losses and wastage.

∞ **Bangladesh.** Women selling vegetables at a local market in Barisal, an area prone to natural disasters.
© FAO, 2007, Giulio Napolitano.



In the **Central African Republic**, 80 warehouses and 64 agricultural input shops were established enabling the provision of quality seeds to over 121,000 beneficiaries.

☞ **Central African Republic.** A girl learning to cultivate tomatoes in the garden of a Junior Farmer Field and Life School in Samba.
© FAO, 2012, Riccardo Gangale.

From 2008-2012, we improved rural and agricultural infrastructure

- In **Mozambique**, the rehabilitation of a 65 km road led to a decrease in transport costs from US\$ 3-4 per ton per km to less than US\$ 1 per ton per km benefitting about 79,000 people.
- In **Liberia**, ten food storage and processing warehouses and over 34.5 km of rural feeder roads were constructed, benefitting over 50,000 people.
- In **Burundi**, 1,086 hectares of irrigation were established, 51 km of rural roads rehabilitated and six warehouses constructed, supporting some 20,000 households. In parallel, we also trained 4,000 members of farmers' organisations and municipal authorities in local development and improved agricultural technologies. The target population saw an increase of 183% in income and 78% of additional agricultural production marketed.
- In **Somalia**, we developed and rehabilitated high potential irrigation schemes, including over 1,100 km of canals and around 600 km of rural roads benefitting over 110,000 households and training of beneficiary farmers through Farmer Field Schools in good agricultural practices.



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DRC: New road helps revive flagging agricultural sector. The district of Tshuapa, Equatorial Province, was once considered one of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's agricultural centres. But conflict and the economic collapse in the 1990s resulted in the disappearance of local market places, forcing farmers to restrict themselves to subsistence agriculture. A key route connecting the towns of Boende and Monkoto was reduced to a footpath by years of war and neglect. With a population of over 340,000 people, many living in isolated farms, the area had a lack of reliable transport infrastructure. The reopening of the road between

A key route was
reduced to a footpath
by years of war

the two towns is the first stage of a UN-EU initiative to revitalise agricultural production and improve access to markets. This access will also strengthen existing farmers' organisations, distribution of agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilisers, and construction of storage facilities and sales outlets.

 **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** Construction of a bridge on the rehabilitated road.
© UNOPS, 2012, Tchagnau Essotina.

In **Afghanistan**, we strengthened four Improved Seed Enterprises and ten Agricultural Research Institutes, and established 20 new enterprises for certified seed production, processing and storage to facilitate access to certified seeds. Enhanced variety of seeds was also developed, including advanced lines of wheat, potatoes, rice, chickpeas and lentils.

- ☞ **Afghanistan.** A lab technician sorting seeds for testing in Mazar-e Sharif.
© FAO, 2009, Danfung Dennis.



We supported agricultural modernisation, rural development and agricultural research

- In **Madagascar**, we helped intensify rice production reaching additional production of 56,524 tons (40% more than target). We built irrigation infrastructure reaching over 13,500 ha and provided extension services to 36,000 producers, increasing household income by 38%.
- In **Burundi**, the **DRC**, **Rwanda** and **Uganda**, we distributed virus free cassava planting material to some 330,000 smallholders struck by the virus.
- In **Sierra Leone**, we established and strengthened 193 Agricultural Business Centres managed by 490 farmer-based organisations, enabling them to deliver services (micro-credit, sale of inputs, rental of equipment, storage of seeds) to 11,300 households.
- In **Niger**, we established income-generating and micro-finance initiatives improving the food security of over 41,000 people.
- In the **Philippines**, we distributed 392,000 bags of certified rice seeds, rehabilitated 73 communal irrigation systems and established 65 Farmer Field Schools.



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Helping modernise agriculture in Cuba. Yudiel Mojena Guerra, a young farmer from Eastern Cuba, is one of the new farmers who got access to unused land from the Cuban Government for food production. “When I first came here, this land was invaded with marabou weed. I slowly and manually removed it and bought a few animals to start a small milk production unit,” he says. Yudiel is one of the 13,200 farmers assisted

Now I have 100 cows,
goats and horses

through a joint UN-EU programme, which modernised local agriculture in 37 pilot municipalities. The programme provided seeds, fertilisers, farming tools and machines to farmers and cooperatives, and training. With this support, he has been able to increase his production. “Now I have 100 cows, and I have introduced goats and some horses”, he says. For Yudiel, training meant that not only has he been able to increase the production of his farm, but he has also helped others. “This is now a school-farm where I share my knowledge with other people starting in this business”.

 **Cuba.** Cattle being fed in one of the UN-EU supported farms in Eastern Cuba.
© UNDP, 2011, Maruchi Alonso.

Animal production and health services were improved



- 📌 **Tajikistan.** A veterinarian tagging the ear of a sheep to indicate it has been vaccinated for brucellosis, an infectious disease found in livestock that can be transferred by their milk to humans.
© FAO, 2010, Vasily Maximov.

We also carried out extensive disease control campaigns

In ten countries in Asia and Africa, we strengthened the national veterinary services for the diagnosis, control and prevention of Avian Influenza through: training of national veterinary workers; construction and improvement of laboratories and facilities; provision of technical equipment and monitoring of the epidemiological situation.

- In **Côte d'Ivoire**, mass vaccination campaigns and prevention actions led to the reduction in prevalence of high impact animal diseases, such as the contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), livestock trypanosomiasis, and bird flu.
- In **Tajikistan**, the vaccination of nearly 2.8 million animals against brucellosis, together with the organisation of public awareness campaigns, led to a decrease in the prevalence of the disease.
- At global level, the EU also supported the work and functioning of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), the governing body of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). The IPPC is an international plant health agreement, established in 1952 to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests.



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Rinderpest eradicated. In 2011, after a decades-long global campaign supported by the EU, the UN eradicated rinderpest, a highly infectious disease that killed many millions of cattle and other animals, and caused hunger and economic hardship in Africa, Asia and Europe. This was the first animal disease to be eradicated globally and only the second disease ever, after smallpox. The campaign's success is due to political and financial support for veterinary services, community outreach, regional cooperation and research.

First animal disease to be eradicated

- 8 **Sri Lanka.** A veterinary technician testing blood samples from cattle in a laboratory to ensure the rinderpest virus has not returned.
© FAO, 2010, Ishara Kodikara.



In **Albania**, we supported production and trade of safe and quality animal-origin products by establishing a National Small Ruminants Association and developing specialised software and training packages on food safety and animal welfare.

☞ **Albania.** Promotion of local livestock products by a UN-EU supported association during the Albanian traditional summer day.
© UNDP, 2012, Fabian Lashi.

We supported the development of private sector markets and strengthened norms and standards for food production, trade and export

In twelve African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, we developed 15 national food and agribusiness sector development strategies to improve incomes of poor populations relying on commodities.

- In **Ghana, Kenya and Uganda**, we strengthened the capacity of the National Bureaus of Standards to assist enterprises with food safety requirements, by training experts and more than 560 enterprises operators.
- In **Mozambique**, we enabled the preparation of a National Export Strategy, provided training courses on international standards (ISO 22000 and HACCP), and facilitated the accreditation of laboratories to add value and ensure quality of food products.



We also built knowledge and encouraged policy reform

- In **West Africa**, we facilitated the development of a regional and eight national quality control policies, trained over 5,000 technicians, enabled the accreditation of 14 laboratories, and assisted 120 enterprises to achieve compliance with food safety standards
- In **Cameroon**, we established demonstration facilities and trained lead farmers to stimulate a sector-wide shift in coffee production, benefitting 400,000 coffee producing households.
- In **Somalia**, we supported the adoption of a legal act for the production, distribution and retailing of meat, and prepared operating procedures and manuals for the production of meat in abattoirs.
- In **Pakistan**, we improved knowledge and influenced policy reform for dairy and livestock production through evidence-based research and public dialogue.

📷 **Cameroon.** Portrait of a participant at an agri-food buyers tour. Demonstration facilities were installed and lead farmers were trained for the production of agri-foods.
© ITC, 2011.



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Bangladesh: Transforming the shrimp industry. Bangladesh is one of the world’s leading shrimp exporters. Since 2010, the UN and the EU strengthened the national quality infrastructure for fish and shrimp products to meet safety and quality requirements in export markets and improve competitiveness. We upgraded testing laboratories, and improved quality management and technical capacity to gain international accreditation. New laws and regulations were drafted on food safety, animal and fish feed, shrimp hatcheries and veterinary medicines. Systematic quality management and record keeping were also introduced for 5,500 shrimp farmers.

News laws and regulations were drafted on food safety



Ecosystems management for food and nutrition security

Ecosystems provide communities with a wide range of edible plant and animal species as food sources, and support entire agricultural systems. Well-managed agro-ecosystems form the basis for long-term sustainable development and ensure the availability of essential food on which societies depend. The contribution of certain agro-ecosystems, such as fish stocks, is often undervalued.

8 Lao PDR. Local farmers collecting pest specimens during an integrated pest management training at a farmers' field school.
© FAO, K. Pratt.



Ecosystem degradation results in less water for people, crops and livestock; lower crop, livestock and tree yields; and higher risks of natural disaster.

- 70% of the global poor (1.1 billion) depend on ecosystems' productivity for their livelihoods.
- Natural resources account for more than 25% of the wealth of low-income countries.
- Over 500 million people depend on fisheries and aquaculture for their foods.
- Aquatic products provide essential nutrition for 3 billion people.

📷 **Bangladesh.** Workers unloading the morning's catch at a fish market in Barisal, Southern Bangladesh.
© FAO, 2010, Munir Uz Zaman.

Well-managed ecosystems constitute the basis for the well-being of rural communities. Healthy and productive ecosystems are also the backbone of sustainable food production



- ✎ **Brazil.** Good timber immersed in the waters of the Tukurui lake. Here, a forester prepares his saw. The UN is promoting sustainable forestry practices in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest.
© FAO, Giuseppe Bizzarri.

Through our partnership, we improved natural resources management

- In **Somalia**, we provided training to 250,000 farmers on Integrated Pest Management principles and related use of chemicals, leading to a more efficient crop management and improved agro-ecosystems.
- In the **Brazilian Amazon**, we currently assist state and municipal authorities to strengthen their capacity to prevent and control deforestation, and ensure sustainable timber production.
- In **China**, we enhanced the capacity of farming communities on agro-biodiversity management (ABM) through the establishment and provision of training to 12,000 farmers. We also provided expertise to review ABM policies and develop a five-year national plan on ABM and climate change.
- Through a global programme, we support local stakeholders in 60 countries to enable them to put into practice the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action. This initiative contributes to limit the presence of illegal timber in the global and European markets.



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The Mau Forest in Kenya - More Than Trees. Forests are one of the most valuable assets on earth, but they are under threat. A joint UN-EU programme in the Mau Forest complex of Kenya, one of Sub-Saharan Africa's largest canopy woodlands, is developing innovative

Local farmers are
taught eco-friendly
techniques

approaches to rehabilitate and protect degraded areas. Hesbon, 55, lives and works in Lorenge Forest Station in the Northern Mau. He runs one of four Farmers Field Schools in the area. A total of 120 farmers are taking part in regular classes facilitated by the Kenya Forest Service. Local farmers are taught eco-friendly techniques which increase crop yield and revenue, while ensuring the long-term sustainability of the natural resources.


 **Kenya.** A portrait of Farmers Field School Facilitator Hesbon Obira in the Mau Forest.
© UNEP, 2012, Riccardo Gangle.



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DRC: Reviving agricultural and forestry research. The UN-EU are leading efforts to help the Democratic Republic of the Congo breathe new life into agricultural and forestry research. “All development begins with research”, says Gustave Tuka, former Secretary General of the Ministry of Scientific Research. “Research used to be the pride of Congo,” he adds, “but after a long period of lethargy, we are now just taking the first steps to bring it back to life.” In the area of forestry, 13 PhD-students and 35 MSc-students are carrying out research aimed at safeguarding one of the world’s most valuable ecosystems, while at the same time improving the livelihoods of the people living in and around the forest, who greatly depend on it for their income and subsistence. Meanwhile, research stations across the country are being rehabilitated and equipped with state of the art material, so that the students have what they need to perform.

Students now have what
they need to perform

 **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** A cassava plant resistant to the African cassava mosaic virus in Kalemie, Katanga Region.
© FAO, 2008, Giulio Napolitano.



Scientific cooperation is being promoted among the various regions of the Mediterranean Sea to ensure sustainability of marine resources. These efforts improve knowledge on marine resources and strengthen national capacities to obtain statistical data. Training in fisheries contributed to increased capacities of Fisheries Departments in the Eastern Mediterranean sub-region. In the Adriatic Sea, management plans for specific fisheries are being developed. A Mediterranean Fishery and Information System was also established.

- ✎ **Italy.** Local fishermen harvesting fish from nets on the Mediterranean Sea. The UN is promoting scientific cooperation in the Mediterranean to ensure the long-term sustainability of marine resources.
© FAO, Roberto Faidutti.

The EU with the UN strengthened aquaculture and promoted sustainable management of fisheries

- At global level, we are reviewing the current knowledge on the contribution of aquaculture to food and nutrition security, and developing methodologies for better assessment.
- In **Mozambique**, the construction and rehabilitation of fish market infrastructure (six fish markets, 41 fish ponds, five innovative fishing boats), together with training and the provision of loans to fishing entrepreneurs, benefitted 8,800 households.
- In **Cambodia**, 1,300 fish ponds were improved for household use, and over 85 community fish ponds and 16 hatcheries created or rehabilitated. Help was also given to prepare the ponds for stocking.
- In the prevention and elimination of illegal fishing, we developed a global record of fishing, refrigerated and transport vessels. The EU supported global technical consultations on the issue of flag state in relation to international instrument compliance. This work will contribute to the finalisation of Guidelines constituting an important tool to stem the incidence of illegal fishing.



Better policy, information and accountability systems

Capacity development is at the heart of the UN's mandate.

In partnership with the EU, we are strengthening national capacities in countries across the world to achieve their own goals in the areas of food and nutrition security.

Well-functioning information systems also play a critical role in revealing the current status of agricultural development and support to national policy formulation and review. As part of our capacity building actions, we facilitated the establishment and improvement of Agricultural, Food Security and Early Warning Systems.

∞ **Philippines.** Farmers transplanting rice seedlings.
© FAO, J. Villamora.



We enhanced the capacity of regional organisations and existing platforms for rural development and food security in Africa, Asia and Latin America, including among others: ECOWAS, ICRISAT, CEN-SAD Secretariat, Pan-African Great Green Wall Agency, the Rural Hub for West and Central Africa, CGIAR, ASEAN, SAARC and SICA.

৪০ **Bangladesh.** A woman farmer feeding her ducks at home.
© FAO, 2010, Munir Uz Zaman.

We enabled formulation and review of agricultural policies in over 20 countries

- We facilitated the establishment and strengthening of Agricultural and Food Security Information systems in nearly 25 countries.
- We supported the development of Agricultural and Livestock Censuses in **Chad, Haiti and Niger**.
- We facilitated the development of regional policies and the coherence of national legislation and indicators for food and nutrition security in **Central America**. We also enabled the integration of food and nutrition security in development and investment plans of 90 municipalities across the region. A new Master's Degree is enabling 135 technicians to improve their skills on the topic.
- We supported the development of national social protection policies, designed to contribute to higher food security in **Burkina Faso, Honduras and Cambodia**.
- We supported governments in **Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda**, and regional economic communities (IGAD and EAC) in the **Horn of Africa** to develop policies, establish and strengthen coordination mechanisms, and enhance knowledge on issues pertaining to Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR).
- The EU also supported the work of the reformed UN Committee on World Food Security, an intergovernmental body serving as a forum for the review and follow up of food security policies



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Sudan: Developing capacities for food security. A joint UN-EU programme in Sudan strengthened capacities in rural communities and Government line ministries in five states. Under this initiative, 3,000 government employees were trained in planning, management and administration of development programmes and policy formulation. In addition, policy groups and database systems were set up to monitor and evaluate agricultural production. In parallel, rural communities received training in agriculture, animal husbandry, horticulture, forestry, fisheries, water harvesting and rural enterprises through 180 Farmer Field Schools, the training of 200 Community Animal Resources Development Associates and the establishment of 40 small business groups and marketing associations.

3,000 government
employees trained in
planning

- 80 **Sudan.** A farmer near Nyala, where many Internally Displaced Persons are hosted, standing amidst healthy millet crops he and his community has grown with seeds and tools provided by the UN.
© FAO, 2005, Jose Cendon.



A UN-EU shared vision for the future: end under-nutrition

The EU and the UN share the same vision and priorities and are making complementary contributions towards ending under-nutrition and assuring food and nutrition security. The fundamentals of the EU's development policy framework are set out in the Agenda for Change and the EC Communications on Food Security, Humanitarian Assistance, Resilience, and Enhancing Maternal Child and

Nutrition. Sustainable intensification of agriculture, food and nutrition security, and resilient livelihoods are top priorities for the EU's development policy. The key result targeted is to reduce the number of children under five who are stunted by at least 7 million and the percentage of wasted children to less than 5% by 2025.

- ∞ **Central African Republic.** Children drawing pictures during a Junior Farmer Field and Life School session on HIV/AIDS.
© FAO, 2012, Riccardo Gangale.



Zero Hunger

In 2012 the UN Secretary-General launched the Zero Hunger Challenge to eliminate hunger in our lifetimes, and ensure the following targets: 100% access to adequate food all year round; zero stunted children less than two years old; all food systems are sustainable; 100% increase in smallholder productivity and incomes; and zero loss or waste of food.

Starting from the shared vision and putting emphasis in ending under-nutrition in less developed countries, the UN-EU are joining forces to mobilise and support political commitment, policy coherence, investments and capacity development. More specifically, our strategic cooperation will include mutually reinforcing advocacy, working together on global public goods, coherent guidance to our respective country teams, joined up support to strengthen food and nutrition security information for action and coordination systems, and provision of financial and technical assistance for regional and country level programming, implementation and monitoring and impact assessment.

- » **Democratic Republic of the Congo.** The first years of a child's life is an important period of growth and development. A mother helps her child drink the daily ration of enriched milk at a Nutritional Centre in Katanga.
© FAO, Giulio Napolitano.



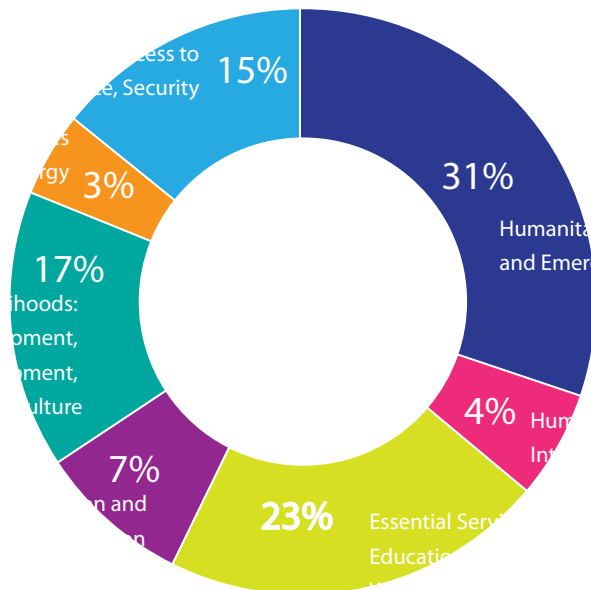
Continuing to build resilience

In emergency contexts, we will continue to jointly design and deliver durable, resilience-building food assistance programmes adapted to the particular needs of vulnerable populations affected by crises. Together, the UN-EU will develop innovative tools, technologies and partnerships to stitch together the social safety nets needed to protect the world's most vulnerable people from the shocks of climate change, natural disasters and food price rises.

We will also improve resilience by expanding programmes to improve maternal nutrition, infant care and feeding behaviour. Working together, we will promote universal access to nutritious food in the 1000-day window of opportunity between the start of pregnancy and a child's second birthday, supported by nutrition-sensitive health care, water, sanitation, education and specific nutrition interventions.

- 8 **Haiti.** A UN peacekeeper fits a child with a blue beret. In emergency situations, UN peacekeepers support local populations in the provision of food, water and other essential services.
© UN, 2011, Victoria Hazou.

Thematic breakdown of EU contributions to UN activities in 2012



Since 2004, a single financial and administrative framework (FAFA) between the UN and the EU facilitates cooperation and improves the efficiency of the aid delivered.

The EU member states provide over 36% of the funding for UN peacekeeping operations and nearly 35% of the UN regular budget, as well as about one-half of all UN Member States' contributions to UN funds and programmes.

Includes financial contributions from ECHO and EuropeAid in 2012 only.

Source: United Nations Brussels office based on European Commission data, 2013.



Geographic scope of the UN-EU partnership

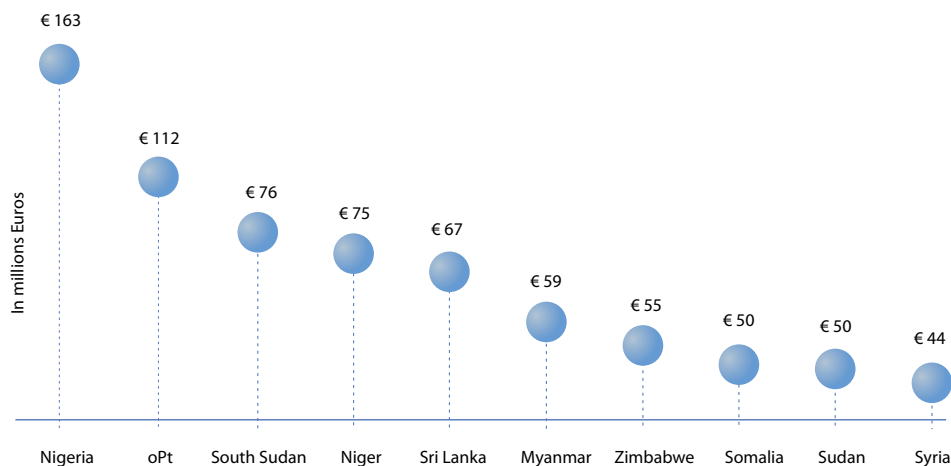
In 2012, the UN and the EU
worked together to support
government and societies in over
110 countries

EU financial contributions to activities of the UN



Source: European Commission, 2013. Refers to funds from the European Commission EuropeAid and ECHO.

Top 10 countries benefitting from EU support through the UN in 2012



Does not include UN regional programmes funded by the European Commission. Covers only agreements signed in 2012. Contributions to oPt cover the West Bank and Gaza, and support provided to Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

Source: United Nations Brussels office based on European Commission data, 2013.

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