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ROSA news

The online network on food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and rural development



2015

European year

for development

This issue comprises an article on the Third Financing for Development Conference that took place in July in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as part of a key international process of negotiation that will lead to a new international development agenda for the period up to the year 2030. In these negotiations, the EU played a key role. *Latest news from the European Commission* comprises summaries and links to a series of recent publications on food and nutrition security, aquaculture and fisheries, rural land governance, and research and innovation. Additional items include information on past and current conferences and events, as well as summaries of new, interesting resources.

2015 is the **European Year for Development** (EYD), with individual months reflecting key themes in European international development. The month of August focused on **humanitarian aid** and September focuses on **demography and migration**. The month of October will be our month: EYD will focus on Food Security, featuring public events and the launch of online videos, stories and case studies. The next issue of ROSA News, to

be published in October, will focus on this special month. To follow the European Year for Development, please consult its [website](#). News and events during the month of Food Security can be followed on ROSA. More information on the month of Food Security can be found in the section on upcoming events on page 9 of this newsletter.

ROSA News is a product of the ROSA network on Capacity4Dev. To receive this newsletter, you are invited to join the ROSA network, using the link at the bottom of this page. Since June 2015, the ROSA network has become the online network on food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

The newsletter is produced by Sarah Cummings and Paolo Sarfatti of the Integrated Support Service - Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (ISS-FANSSA). You are welcome to post comments on the ROSA group on Capacity4Dev, or to contact the ISS-FANSSA team by e-mail (EuropeAid-FANSSA@ec.europa.eu).

Happy reading!

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To subscribe to this newsletter, register on Capacity4Dev and join the ROSA group on food and nutrition security, and sustainable agriculture.

Financing for Development *and the new*

Addis Ababa Action Agenda



Closing plenary. Photo: UNDESA / Shari Nijman / Flickr



The Third International Conference on Financing for Development took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13-16 July 2015. It brought together high-level political representatives, including Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, as well as all relevant institutional stakeholders, non-governmental organisations and business sector entities.

The EU had a strong presence at the Addis Conference, led by the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica. The EU played a key role in the negotiations around the Action Agenda. The Conference also allowed the EU to showcase its

achievements as the world's largest donor, most open market for developing country exports, and pioneer in the use of innovative financing instruments. The EU's position for the Conference was guided by the vision the EU and its Member States laid-out in the [Council conclusions on a Post-2015 Global Partnership](#).

The aim of the conference was to agree on the financial and non-financial means of implementation that will support the Post-2015 Development Agenda and, in particular, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This aim was fulfilled, embedding the Addis conference as a vital part of the process of international negotiations taking place this year which will include the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda, taking



Financing for development conference round table. Photo: UNECA / Flickr



Photo: Vlada Republike Hrvatske / Flickr

European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica's reaction to agreement on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, 16 July 2015.

I welcome this accord, which puts in place very robust foundations to support the Sustainable Development Goals that will be agreed in September in New York and the climate agreement to be adopted in December in Paris. I am delighted that together we have been able to decide on an ambitious vision. It reflects the changed world we live in and addresses the full range of what we call 'means of implementation': the tools, policies and resources that need to be in place to ensure that the future agenda can be implemented. Today's agreement acknowledges that all actors have to mobilise all resources to come to a success.

place in New York in September. Since the close of the Addis Ababa conference, the draft Post-2015 Outcome Document to be considered in New York, **Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development**, has been made public. The success of the two conferences in Addis Ababa and New York will also help to lay solid foundations for the UN climate change conference in Paris that will be held at the end of this year.

The Financing for Development Conference agreed with the **Addis Ababa Action Agenda** which sets in place a new global framework for financing sustainable development, aligning all financing flows and policies with economic, social and environmental priorities, and building on the **2002 Monterrey Consensus** and the **2008 Doha Declaration**. The Action Agenda also provides a comprehensive set of policy actions with a package of over 100 concrete measures that draw upon all sources of finance, technology, innovation, trade and data in order to support mobilisation of the means for a global transformation to sustainable development and achievement of the SDGs.

As part of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, governments commit to:

- A new social compact to provide social protection and essential public services for all
- A global infrastructure forum to bridge the infrastructure gap
- A package to support the Least Developed Countries
- A Technology Facilitation Mechanism to advance to the SDGs
- Enhanced international tax cooperation to assist in raising resources domestically
- Mainstreaming women's empowerment into financing for development

International financial support will also be important. Official Development Assistance (ODA) will remain crucial, particularly for countries most in need. The EU is already the world's largest aid donor and built on this with a keynote re-affirmation of its commitment to meeting the UN Official Development Assistance (ODA) target of 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) within the timeframe of the Post-2015 Agenda, as well as undertaking to meet the targets of 0.15-0.20% ODA of GNI for Least Developed Countries in the short term, and to meet the upper 0.20% GNI



threshold within the timeframe of the Post-2015 Agenda. These commitments are explicitly welcomed in the Action Agenda.

But aid alone will not be sufficient. The Action Agenda addresses all sources of finance: public and private, domestic and international. As in the Monterrey Consensus, it recognises that finance is not just about financing flows; it depends as well on public policies that strengthen the national and international enabling environments. The Agenda goes beyond Monterrey, fully taking into account the regulatory and other policy requirements for realising the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and the universal nature of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It supports the implementation of the SDGs, including poverty eradication and inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth.

The EU also participated in and organised a number of side-events during the Addis conference. A joint EU-African Union event: *Catalysing private sector engagement and resources for development: the EU and African perspectives*, took place on 15 July. The event focused on private sector engagement and current experiences with blending, including new EU initiatives such as AgriFI and ElectriFI, which will be harnessing private sector resources for the African agricultural and energy sectors respectively.

An example of the EU's contribution to the post-2015 financing agenda

Collectively, EU Official Development Assistance (ODA) reached €58 billion in 2014 making the EU by far the world's largest donor, providing more than 50% of the aid reported by the OECD. In line with this role, the EU is committed to achieve the UN 0.7% target within the timeframe of the post-2015 agenda, including a specific effort for Least Developed Countries.

The EU estimates that it will mobilise €100 billion through 'blending' of public and private finance by 2020. EU investments of up to €8 billion should generate over €40 billion from public finance institutions, which should help mobilise over €100 billion in total from private sources by 2020.

The minimum estimated annual value of exports of Least Developed Countries to the EU is €35 billion.



Top: *International Support to Domestic Resource Mobilisation*. Photo: UNECA/Flickr
Bottom: *Helen Hai and Arancha*. Photo: Pettrik Wiggers / Flickr



What does this mean for food security and agriculture?

The conference has particular significance for food security and agriculture which is reflected in the Action Agenda. The dedicated paragraph (Paragraph 13) on scaling up efforts to end hunger and malnutrition is consistent with SDG2 that focuses on food security, malnutrition, sustainable agriculture and food systems. **Paragraph 13** recognises that:

'It is unacceptable that close to 800 million people are chronically undernourished and do not have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food.'

It stresses the importance of revitalising the agricultural sector, promoting rural development and ensuring food security, particularly in developing countries, because these developments will lead to rich payoffs across all SDGs. Paragraph 13 also considers that to end hunger and malnutrition will require investments from both the private and public sectors, praising the work of a number of the Rome Agencies. **Paragraphs 63** and **64** are dedicated to natural resources, emphasising ecosystems and sustainable management of terrestrial and marine resources. In addition, **Paragraph 108** proposes measures to address the 'excessive volatility of commodity prices' for food and agriculture with its consequences for global food security.

Key conferences in the international development calendar, 2015

13-16 July: Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia →

25-27 September: UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda, New York, USA →

30 November-11 December: UN Climate Change Conference COP21, Paris, France →

EU sources

EU Factsheet on Financing for Development →

A New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015 Council of the EU conclusions →

Financing global sustainable development after 2015: illustrations of key EU contributions →

Blending and the EU →

Other sources

Financing for Development conference website →

UN Briefing on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda →

Addis Ababa Action Agenda →

Joint AU-EU event: Catalysing private sector engagement and resources for development: the EU and African perspectives →

Approach to food security prominent in Addis Ababa Action Agenda →

UN Conference in Ethiopia Calls for Global Finance Reform, New York Times, 16 July 2015 →

Addis Ababa development finance summit: all you need to know, The Guardian, 13 July 2015 →

Women's Working Group on Financing for Development: reaction to the outcome document, 17 July 2015 →



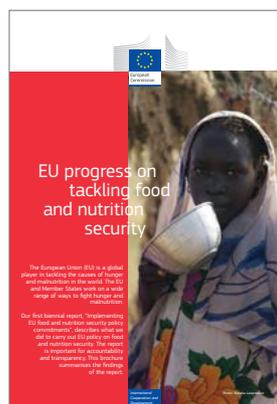
Recent publications on food security, nutrition *and* sustainable agriculture



Research & innovation

Published in June 2014, this information note outlines the EU's approach to research and innovation in the sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security sector. It is intended to provide a basis for policy dialogue and resource mobilisation, and to guide staff at EU Headquarters and Delegations in the identification and supervision of research and innovation initiatives. Particular emphasis is placed on innovative ways to put research into use and to scale up success. Completing the last mile, namely translating research results into impacts on the livelihoods of the poor, is often the most challenging part.

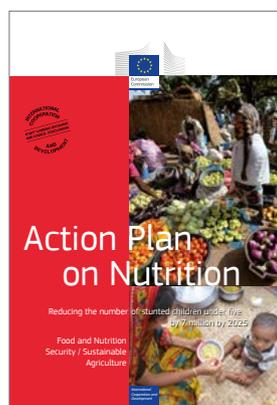
Information note, 28pp. [↓](#)



EU progress on tackling food and nutrition security

The Report, entitled **Implementing EU food and nutrition security policy commitments**, published in December 2014, describes what the EU and Member States have done to carry out EU policy on food and nutrition security. In 2012, the EU and Member States collectively spent nearly €3.4 billion on food and nutrition security in 115 countries, directing much of their support to food-insecure countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. This brochure summarises the findings of the Report.

Brochure, 4pp. [↓](#)



Action Plan on Nutrition: reducing the number of stunted children under five by 7 million by 2025

Published in 2015, this Action Plan outlines how the EU plans to achieve its commitment to reducing stunting in children under five by at least 10% (7 million children) by 2025. It addresses strategic objectives in the areas of governance, scaled up interventions and research, identifying how the EU can improve nutrition at the national, regional and international levels, identifying the elements necessary for a more effective and accountable response in the fight against undernutrition. It underlines the need to work closer with development actors and partner countries. More specific actions are defined country by country in the National Indicative Programmes for the 2014-2020 programming period.

Action Plan, 26pp. [↓](#)

Recent publications on food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture



EU support to rural land governance *state of play*

Published in 2014, this factsheet provides an overview of EU support to responsible governance of rural land tenure. It demonstrates the level of commitment and aims to facilitate coordination with other stakeholders at global, continental and country level. Secure land tenure is a critical component of economic development and social stability. Tenure rights, land reform policies and institutional structures need to be appropriate to economic, political, and environmental realities. If they are not, they can undermine growth, erode the natural resource base and catalyse violent conflict. Conversely, land tenure systems that are perceived as legitimate, transparent and transferable can lead to increased agricultural investment at the farm level, improved productivity, social and political stability, as well as better resource management. The need for land governance and policy reform varies from country to country with fragile and post-conflict states often having the greatest need. Clear, consensual and equitable national policies are needed to facilitate a solid commitment from the donor community. In situations where such a framework is not in place, pilot approaches and consensus building processes are recommended to pave the way for further developments.

State of play, 8pp. [↓](#)



Fisheries and aquaculture: European development cooperation *state of play*

Published in July 2015, this publication provides an overview of the EU support to fisheries and aquaculture. It focuses on the priorities of the EU, demonstrating its level of commitment at global, continental, regional and country level. Since 2007, the EU development policy has financed more than 50 projects in the field of fisheries and aquaculture. Commitments over the period 2007-2014 have reached some €230 million. In addition to these commitments, there are other initiatives that also have an impact on fisheries with a primary focus on trade, sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) issues, climate change and protection of the marine environment. Fisheries and aquaculture can play an essential role in fighting under-nutrition and poor nutrition as fish contributes directly to the diet of populations in developing countries.

State of play, 12pp. [↓](#)





Farmer from agricultural community.
Photo: Guy Stubbs / EC Library

14-17 June 2015

Innovations in Climate-Smart Agriculture for Small-Scale Producers

Organised by INMED Partnerships for Children (INMED), the inaugural Harvest the Future International Symposium took place in Montego Bay, Jamaica, 14-17 June 2015. The Symposium convened more than 120 representatives of international multilateral agencies, non-governmental organisations, private sector businesses, academic institutions, smallholder farmers and others to discuss the pressing, interrelated issues of climate change and food security, and to offer solutions through innovative climate-smart agricultural practices such as aquaponics. The three-day Symposium included presentations and roundtable discussions with experts who shared knowledge and expertise across academic disciplines and geographic boundaries, a field tour of intensive aquaponic systems in action, and informal evening receptions to foster partnership development. Both speakers and audience members highlighted optimism in the face of a global climate crisis combined with a growing global population.

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Women sorting and grading chillies, Malawi.
Photo: EC Library

30-31 July 2015

2nd Africa Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Conference

The 2nd Africa Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Conference (EBAFOSC 2) took place from 30-31 July 2015 at UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, under the theme 'Re-imagining Africa's Food Security through Harnessing Ecosystem Based Adaptation Approaches Now and Into the Future under Climate Change.' More than 1200 delegates from governments, research and policy institutions, civil society, the private sector and youth organisations attended the event, which was convened by the UNEP Regional Office for Africa (UNEP/ROA) and partner organisations. EBAFOSC 2 produced two main outcome documents: the 'Nairobi Action Agenda on Africa's Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security'; and a Constitution establishing a new pan-African institution, the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA).

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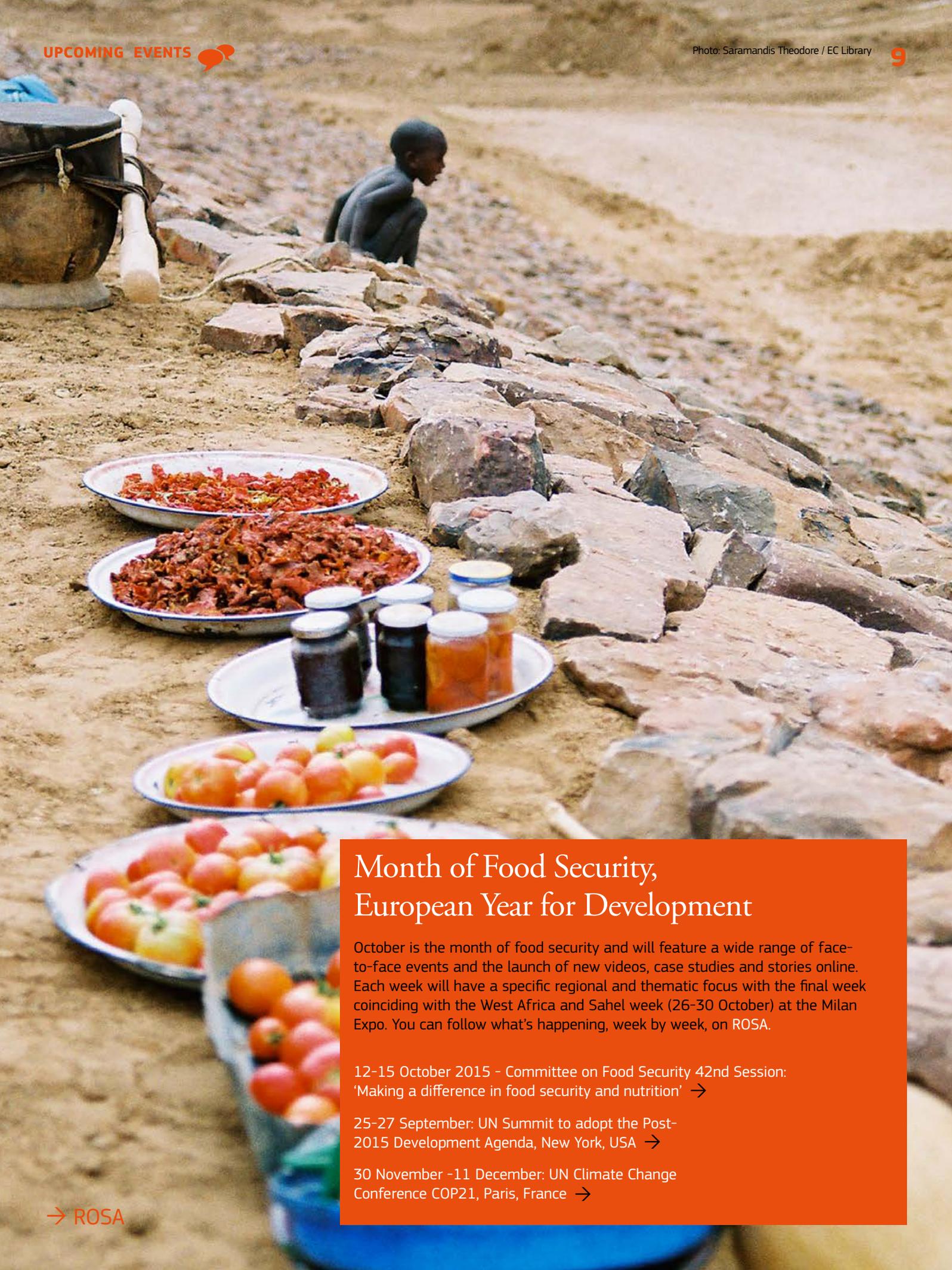
Villagers in Financial Management Training Course, Botswana. Photo: Steve Johnson

25 June 2015

CFS High-Level Forum on Connecting Smallholders to Markets

The Forum brought together a wide range of stakeholders to discuss policy implications, challenges and lessons learned from concrete examples of how farmers have found opportunities to engage in beneficial and sustainable linkages to markets. This contributed to reaching a common understanding of such opportunities and challenges, and the potential contribution CFS could make in addressing them, facilitating identification of broad recommendations on areas for priority action to strengthen smallholder access to markets.

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Month of Food Security, European Year for Development

October is the month of food security and will feature a wide range of face-to-face events and the launch of new videos, case studies and stories online. Each week will have a specific regional and thematic focus with the final week coinciding with the West Africa and Sahel week (26-30 October) at the Milan Expo. You can follow what's happening, week by week, on ROSA.

12-15 October 2015 - Committee on Food Security 42nd Session:
'Making a difference in food security and nutrition' →

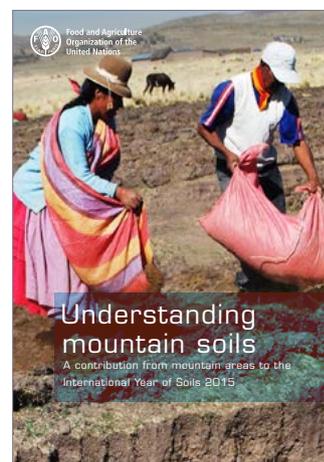
25-27 September: UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda, New York, USA →

30 November -11 December: UN Climate Change Conference COP21, Paris, France →

Understanding mountain soils: a contribution from mountain areas to the International Year of Soils 2015 (FAO)

This publication, produced in July 2015 by the FAO, the Mountain Partnership and others as a contribution to the International Year of Soils 2015, presents the main features of mountain soil systems, their environmental, economic and social values, the threats they are facing and their cultural traditions. Case studies cover mountain regions of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Central America, Ecuador, Europe, India, Lesotho, Nepal, Mexico, Syria, Tajikistan, and Vietnam. Lessons learned and recommendations are presented to inform mountain communities, policy-makers, development experts and academics who support sustainable mountain development.

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Agricultural growth in West Africa (FAO, AfDB, ECOWAS)

Published in July 2015, this study examines the opportunities and challenges facing the agrifood system in West Africa. It considers that opportunities for West African agricultural growth are unprecedented, but these opportunities are combined with new challenges, rendering policymaking more complex. Market opportunities for West African food producers are considered to be increasingly dynamic due to population growth, urbanisation, income growth, dietary diversification and higher output prices.

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Beyond good intentions: agricultural policy in the SADC region (Oxfam)

Published in August 2015, this briefing note argues that although policy-makers in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) are aware of the challenges facing small farmers, in particular women farmers, they urgently need to move beyond rhetoric to an action-based agenda that will catalyse smallholder-led development in the region. A new set of innovative, transformation-oriented policies is urgently needed to support the emergence of a prosperous smallholder sector in the region, especially for women living in rural areas.

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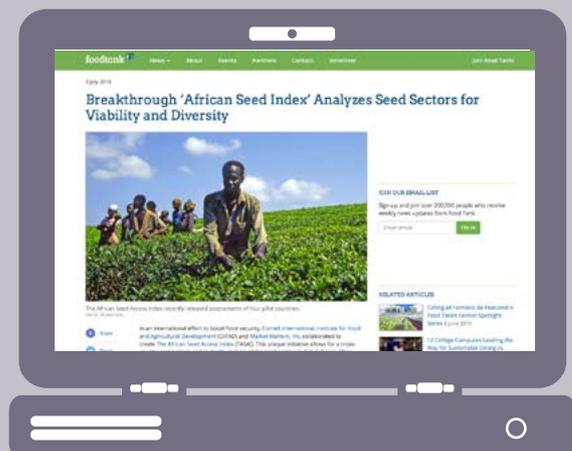
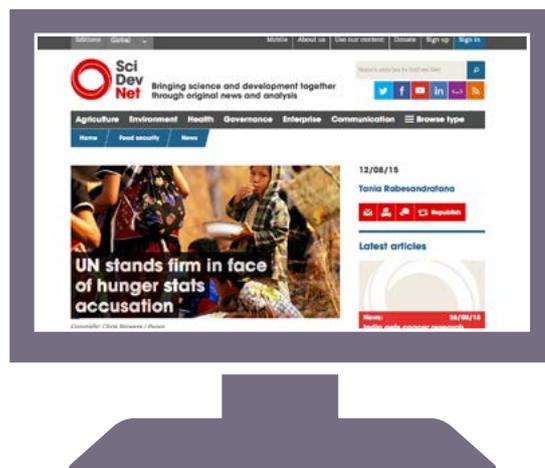


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UN stands firm on hunger stats accusation SciDevNet

This article, published on 12 August 2015, reviews recent academic criticism on how the FAO measures hunger. Thomas Pogge of Yale University considers that the new FAO methodology, adopted in 2012, paints a 'much-too-rosy trend picture', vastly understating the number of chronically undernourished populations and people. He additionally argues that it is bad practice to implement such drastic changes in methodology, with hindsight, in year 22 of a 25-year measurement exercise.

[Further information is available here](#)



Breakthrough 'African Seed Index' analyses seed sectors for viability and diversity

This short article, published in July 2015, provides an overview of The African Seed Access Index (TASAI) that allows for a cross-country comparison and in-depth analysis of the seed sectors in sub-Saharan Africa.

[Further information is available here](#)





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