Systemic approach to addressing food and nutrition security

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Overview

• Global challenges and the impact on agri-food systems

• Food and nutrition security – evolution and implications

• Food systemic approach to tackle food insecurity: WHAT/WHY/HOW

• Key takeaway messages
MEGA TRENDS
Driving agriculture and food system dynamics

Driving forces of change
- Innovation and disruptive technologies
- Shift of power dynamic
- Natural disasters and transboundary pests and diseases

Growing population and urbanization
Double forces of globalization and localization
Pressure on natural resources and climate change
Pandemic
8.9% Prevalence of undernourishment in the world in 2019

750M People exposed to severe levels of food insecurity

COVID-19 is compounding existing threats to food security and nutrition
What is the best approach to tackle food insecurity?
Traditional food security and poverty programs

• Improving food security through increasing the supply of food

• Adopt a production-focused approach

• Solutions are often limited to interventions at farm level
Food security and nutrition - Evolution and implications

“Food security (is) a situation that exists when ALL PEOPLE, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”
"Food security (is) a situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."
The solutions to food insecurity are beyond production.
The solutions to food insecurity are beyond ONE value chain.
Solutions to FSN
Holistic, Interconnected, Trade-offs and Synergies
= AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS

✓ People
✓ Actors
✓ Activities
✓ Sectors
✓ Natural Resource, economy, climate, society
Sustainable agri-food systems support food security

✓ Productive and prosperous
✓ Equitable and inclusive
✓ Empowering and respectful
✓ Resilient
✓ Regenerative
✓ Healthy and nutritious
WHY a systemic approach to improve FSN?

✓ **Facilitates solutions** based on *holistic analyses* that identify *root causes* of unsustainable behavior, prioritize *leverage points* and address *critical constraints*.

✓ Allows developing **integrated interventions** and **better-aligned programs** through collaboration across disciplines and sectors, and within and between countries.

✓ Facilitates:
  
  • A *shift from short-term to long-term vision*
  • A *shift from re-active to pro-active policies and actions*
HOW to adopt a Systemic Approach to improve FSN?

✓ Assessing the performance of the food system in delivering food security

✓ Understanding performance of food systems and interlinked root causes of underperformance delivering food security

✓ Improving performance based on the holistic analysis to:
  ✓ Develop a joint vision and strategy for improving performance,
  ✓ Develop an integrated set of solutions that are supported by multi-stakeholder partnerships and can achieve improved results at scale.
Coordinated set of actions, implemented by a wider range of actors is key - At both national and global level

Source: www.transformingfoodsystems.com
Processes supporting FSN

Global
Inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all

Regional:
- CAADP Pillar III frame work for African food security
- CELAC plan for FSN and eradication of hunger 2025
- ASEAN Integrated food security framework
- EU Farm to Fork strategy

National
Food security and nutrition plans, acts and strategies at country level
Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems

Voluntary Code of Conduct for Food Loss and Waste Reduction

Voluntary Guidelines
- Right to Adequate Food
- Tenure, Soil Management, Small-Scale Fisheries
- Food Systems and Nutrition under discussion

FAO Food Safety Strategy Approach
- Science based food safety governance
- Food Safety intelligence and foresight
Key messages

➢ In an increasingly globalized agri-food systems, **the challenges to achieve food security and nutrition could go beyond food value chain** and result from interactions across different scales and levels. Focusing on one part of the value chain, we risk overlooking some root causes of the food system underperformance.

➢ The complexity of challenges of food security **require integrated actions taken by all stakeholders** at local, national, regional, and global levels, by both public and private actors, and across multiple sectors.

➢ Achieving sustainable developmental impacts, requires taking an **inclusive approach** and to assess the impact of decisions and interventions on communities, environment and economy, and try to minimize trade-offs and increase synergies.
THANK YOU

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