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# Partnerships Framework-FAO Strategy for Partnerships with the private Sector and CSOs.

**Ahmad Mukhtar, Senior Economist, FAO**



# FAO

## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- **194 Member Countries**, two associate members and one member Organization
- Headquarters in **Rome**, Italy
- Presence in more than **130 countries**
- FAO supports governments and their stakeholders in areas of development, in the design of adequate policies, programmes and legal frameworks to promote food security and nutrition

## Why is the private sector such an important partner for achieving the SDGs?

The private sector is an integral part of any economy and society, and nowhere is their impact more evident than in global agri-food systems. Food and agriculture are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda. These two sectors are poised to help us meet some of the world's biggest challenges, from providing a growing population with affordable, accessible and nutritious food, to coping with the impacts of climate change, to sustaining our natural resources and tackling emerging threats from pests and diseases.

The private sector is also a strategic development partner. They are at the forefront of many forms of innovation and play a unique role in trade, finance and investment. Closer engagement with the private sector means we would be able to pool our knowledge to identify and implement solutions which have the potential to make our food systems more resilient, sustainable and inclusive, thereby bringing us closer to achieving the SDGs.



# Scope of the Private Sector

Farmers and  
farmers'  
organizations

Micro-, small and  
medium-sized  
enterprises  
(MSMEs)

Large firms: large  
national and  
multinational  
companies,  
including state-  
owned  
enterprises

Financial  
institutions

Industry, trade  
associations and  
private sector  
consortia

Philanthropic  
foundations



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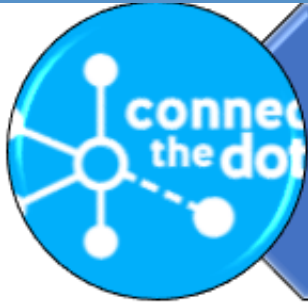
The 2021-2025 FAO Strategy for Private Sector Engagement reflects a new forward-looking vision for strengthening strategic engagement with the private sector towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Strategy will bring about impactful and innovative engagements with the private sector that contribute to our aspiration of leaving no one behind for inclusive, resilient and sustainable food systems by better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life.





# Guiding Pillars of New Strategy



**CONNECT:** a proactive approach to outreach and engagement

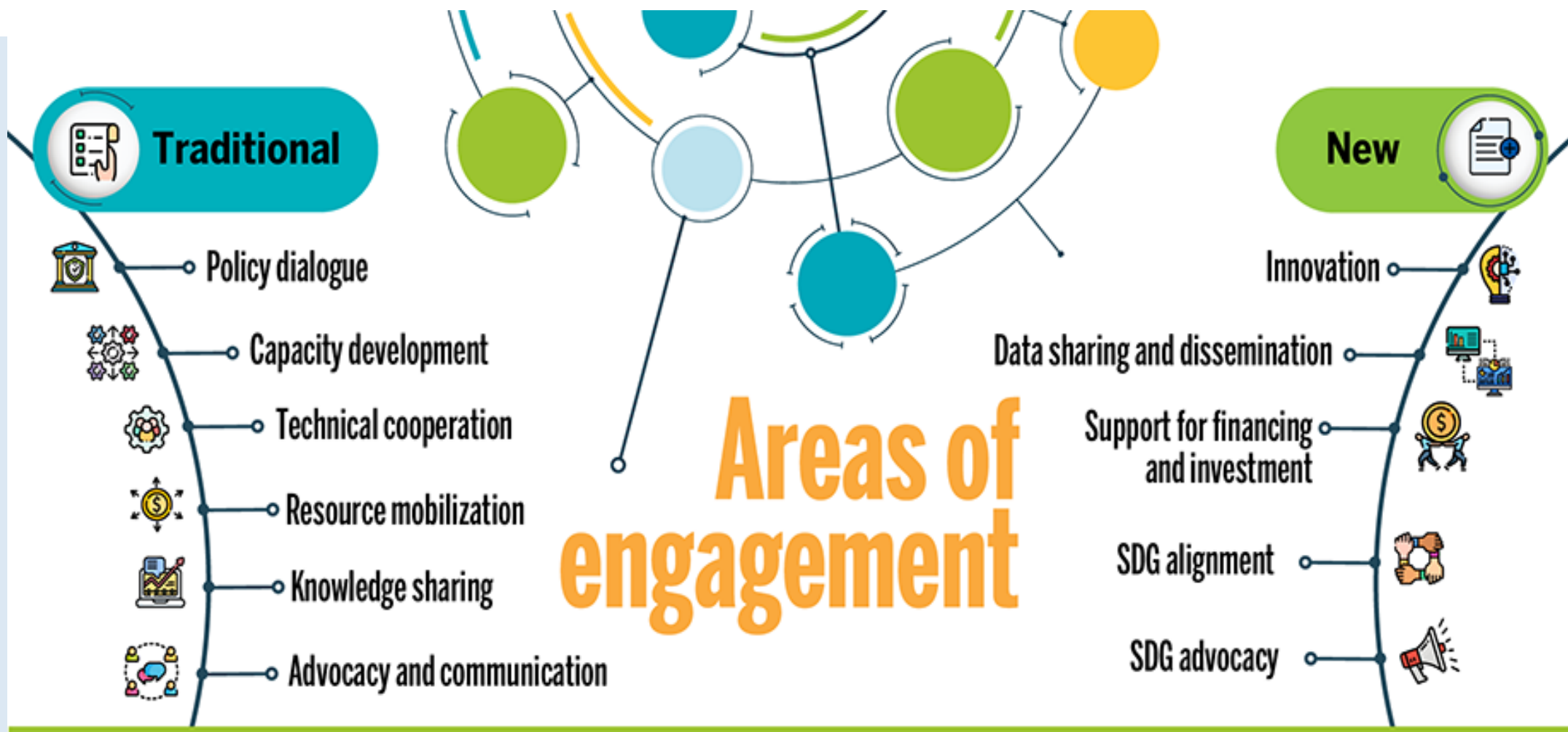


**SUPPORT:** a transparent and diffuse business model for partnership-building



**SUSTAIN:** measuring impact for scaling-up

# A novel approach



# Example: Private sector Partnership for Youth in Rwanda.

## **FAO with JR Farms Limited to promote youth involvement in agriculture and create decent work opportunities.**

- Developing youth-led agriculture enterprises by providing equity funds, through JR Farms' Green Agribusiness Fund (GAF), to selected youth-led agribusinesses involved in different agri-food value chains.
- The young "agri-preneurs" will also benefit from training and capacity development opportunities and will be introduced to wider networks of fellow agri-preneurs.
- Investing in youth, as one of the outcomes of the Africa Regional Conference on Youth Employment held in Kigali, Rwanda in 2018, and organized by FAO in conjunction with the African Union and the Government of Rwanda.
- The partnership also contributes to a broader multi-country FAO project in Guatemala, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda and that supports countries to adopt more youth-inclusive agri-food system development policies, strategies and programmes.





# Example: Scaling-up Mesoamerica hunger free.

## **Challenge:**

- Despite the considerable progress made in recent years, more than 11 million people are still undernourished in Mesoamerica. Undernutrition coexists with a steadily increasing rate of overweight and obesity among children and adults.
- Hunger in Mesoamerica is especially prevalent in indigenous communities and rural areas, where a large part of the population also suffers from poverty, lack of opportunities, insecurity and violence as well as a high vulnerability to extreme weather events, forcing many young adults to migrate to urban areas or abroad.
- There is often a lack of effective and sufficiently funded public policies, programmes and legal frameworks focused on targeting specific needs of smallholder farmers living in rural areas, who generally have limited access to extension services and markets

## **Solution:**

FAO has joined forces with the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) to implement the 'Mesoamerica hunger free' South-South cooperation programme.

Since 2015, the Organization is facilitating the South-South and triangular cooperation through two channels:

- A specialized, demand-driven component of the programme that allows for the mobility of Mexican expertise to meet specific technical cooperation demands requested by the countries, and which complement the other programme's actions; and
- The policy dialogue processes, peer-to-peer exchange of experiences and capacity development activities carried out at regional level with different stakeholders of beneficiary countries (policy makers, technical teams, lawmakers).

- Through the Mesoamerica hunger free programme, FAO is providing technical assistance to lawmakers and the Ministries of Agriculture, Social Welfare and Education in nine countries (Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic) in preparing legal instruments and developing and implementing public policies and programmes focused on achieving food security and nutrition and reducing rural poverty.


- Simultaneously, with emphasis on rural territories with high extreme poverty and undernourishment rates, and limited livelihood options, the programme is facilitating the Effective public policies and legal frameworks for improving food security.

## **Results:**

- 25 public policy processes and 21 legislative processes supported in nine countries; 2 model laws at regional Level
- Strengthened capacities of members of the 'Parliamentary Fronts Against Hunger' in Mesoamerican Countries.
- A catalogue of existing legislation in Mesoamerica on issues related to food security and nutrition is available online.
- National strategies and databases to register family farmers developed in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama and the Dominican Republic
- Rural territorial development processes strengthened in 51 territories in nine countries.

## Example: Making every voice count for adaptive management

An initiative co-led by the Forestry Department and the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Division in FAO. The initiative will complement and support the steps planned to be taken by the GEF-7 Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscape.



FAO's South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Forestry Divisions are supporting communities to:

# Structures for engagement with the private sector

1. Leveraging the food systems agenda
2. Scaling up science, technology and innovation to achieve the SDGs
3. Partnering for healthy diets and to eradicate all forms of malnutrition (including obesity)
4. Facilitating more and better investment
5. Promoting rural development and eradicating rural poverty
6. Capitalizing on data, non-traditional data sources and data science
7. Strengthening measurement tools and corporate reporting on the SDGs and food and agriculture sustainability issues
8. Ensuring environmental sustainability, biodiversity mainstreaming and the climate resilience of food and agricultural systems
9. Addressing food and water crises

# Structure for engagement with the CSOs

FAO recognizes that CSOs play a critical role in the fight against hunger given their technical expertise, their proximity to and representation of the hungry and poor, and their increasing presence in the field. FAO appeals to their knowledge and capacity on a variety of issues related to food security.

FAO works to enhance the quality, number and impact of FAO's relations with CSOs at the global, regional and at the national level, and provides the regional and decentralized offices with guidance and advice they may need for successful collaboration with CSOs.

FAO can provide CSOs with:

- Technical and institutional support In the scaling up of successful approaches which benefit the poor;
- Access to information and Government and other decision-making bodies;
- Greater influence on public policy, service delivery, finances and human resources development;
- Improved mobilization of resources for food security



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# Thank you

[ahmad.mukhtar@fao.org](mailto:ahmad.mukhtar@fao.org)