

22nd ICID Congress, Gwangju, 18 September 2014

WWF7 TF

Asia Pacific Regional Process Session 3 Water and Food Security



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

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From Target 2.1 for WWF6 Economic, Food and Water Security and Green Growth

- **A multi-sectoral approach is needed for water and food security:**
 - Rapid socio-economic transitions
 - eradicating hunger has become more complex and challenging.
 - By 2050, the region's population will swell to five billion.
 - nearly 600 million people suffering from hunger and malnutrition in the Asia-Pacific. This number has not decreased in 20 years
 - Urbanization, climate change, natural disasters, trade policies, increased water and energy demand, soaring crude oil prices and biofuel crops
- **But also because no water security for other sectors without addressing agricultural water management first**
 - magnitude of agriculture's use of freshwater: 70-90%
 - no integrated solution to local water scarcity can ignore the agriculture water use variable
 - our task:
 - improving the efficiency and productivity of water use in agriculture - and reducing environmental impact.
 - Getting the agriculture sector to account for both its use and pollution of water
 - Agriculture has the power to destroy all other productive uses of water

- **Towards a renewed framework for action**
 - Decision-makers and users need to review broad social, economic and environmental objectives through a water lens
 - improve their understating of water availability and use
 - in order to guide bulk water allocation, sectoral policies, productivity targets, and policy instruments and investments in all productive sectors including revitalizing irrigation in the region.
- **Evolving a coherent, effective and feasible set of policies, strategies and interventions**
 - Solutions in practice, not on paper
 - A solid water accounting foundation;
 - Improved processes for decision-making and negotiation among stakeholders;
 - Addressing the Water, Food, Energy and Climate nexus in an integrated approach;
 - Risk management strategies for renewed national food security policies;
 - Progress on monitoring of investment and results.

- **Explicitly addressing policy dilemmas, trade-offs and difficulties**
 - Managing transitions
 - Managing the informality/formality of the water economies
 - Economic water productivity vs. equity
 - National vs. local and river basin objectives
 - “ideal” vs. Plan B and second-best options
 - support green growth WITH food and nutrition insecurity and poverty reduction targets
 - Realistic financial arrangements for water operators
- **FAO solutions**
- **80+ solutions**
- **10 commitments**

APWS2: economic, food and water security

We have achieved remarkable results in economic growth, reducing hunger and poverty. Growth patterns are unsustainable with regard to water and other resources and have left hundreds of millions poor and hungry. **Our goal is to eradicate hunger and poverty by 2025. Leaders and stakeholders need to make complex, difficult decisions now to:**

• **Adopt knowledge-based green growth: reviewing socio-economic objectives through a water lens; adopting policy instruments including pricing policies and payment for ecosystem services; supporting investments boosting ecosystem and water productivity and maintaining water quality across all sectors and supply chains, including agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and irrigation -recognizing its multiple services; returning water to the environment and recognizing the increasing role of the private sector.**

• **Address the water-food-energy nexus, ensuring convergence of water, food, energy, land and climate policies, including in critical aquifers. Governance, dialogue and transboundary cooperation, including for drought management, are key for political stability, equity and balancing trade-offs between sectors.**

• **Ensure that green growth is inclusive, based on participatory decision-making and has equitable outcomes for all communities protecting or depending on ecosystem services, from mountains to seas.**

The Chiang Mai Declaration...

A key consideration (FAO 32nd APRC)

Meeting farmers' aspirations in the context of green development

- Two transitions:
 - structural transformation of agriculture
 - transition to sustainable agriculture
- Farmers have the same aspirations as we do.
- Structural transformation as a threat.
- The challenge: managing both transitions at the same time sustainably and equitably
- The overall effect of transition towards on farmers' incomes is uncertain.
- Sustainable production technologies and labour
 - Agricultural employment still dominant in developing countries, low earnings from labour. Increased reliance on off-farm work, rural migration result in rural labour scarcity

- Sustainable intensification and economies of scale
 - Staples will still be the bulk of agricultural production
 - The ‘farm income question’
 - Countries have adopted policies addressing that question
 - Strengthened cooperation among farmers
- Exit strategies will facilitate transition to SPI
 - Rural populations need better opportunities for employment outside agricultural production
 - Avoid disruptions in livelihoods - balancing exit rate from agriculture and the absorptive capacity of the economy
 - Territorial approaches for multi-sectoral strategies

- A green growth agenda supports the aspirations of farming and communities to control their future and can focus on negative aspects of structural transformation
- This is not sufficient to address structural issues that make a future in agriculture a questionable proposition
- A successful transition to SPI will depend on sustainable but labour-saving technologies, forms of land consolidation, successful exit strategies for many

- Managing transitions involves a number of policy dilemma and difficulties: changing policies that support farmers' incomes in the short term but perpetuate rural poverty with negative impact
- Need for a broad-based policy dialogue:
 - Long-term future and evolution of agriculture and farming
 - Prospects for rural development outside of agriculture;
 - Sustainable farming system that procure much higher incomes
 - Distribution of costs and benefits of the transition to sustainability
 - Non-distortive measures to address income gaps

Session 3

Successfully managing Asia's transitions to achieve food and nutrition security for all and build vibrant rural communities in a water secure and prosperous Asia Pacific Region.

Link: 2.1

FAO-RAP	
UNESCAP	IWMI
ICID	ICIMOD
UNESCO	MANCID
ADB	ADB Youth Initiative
GWP China, Northeast Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia	Global Water Intelligence (WBI)

- Contribute to re-shaping the perspectives and strategies for water and food security in the Asia Pacific by successfully managing agricultural, economic, social and environmental transitions with prosperous rural communities as a core objective.
- Propose and illustrate by forward-looking case studies from the region a new vision for economic, food and water security in the Asia Pacific and endorse a plan of action focusing on 5 action areas

- Context: transitions, resources. The region will not succeed if it continues to leave farmers and rural communities behind. The challenge for decision-makers is to support and orient these transitions in a sustainable and equitable manner.
- This has profound implications for agricultural and rural water management which need to support vibrant rural economies and productive ecosystems, and for the region's food security strategies.
- Simultaneous consideration of several SDG goals/targets
 - poverty and hunger eradication,
 - environmental sustainability,
 - equitable growth and
 - economic development
- Understanding, anticipating and managing these multiple transitions

1. Evolving national food security policies and risk management strategies under water constraints and economic transitions
2. Managing socio-economic transitions sustainably for vibrant rural economies and landscapes: implications for agricultural and rural water management and their governance
3. Supporting investments for rural transformations, boosting ecosystem and water productivity resilience and maintaining water quality across agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, irrigation and drainage -recognizing its multiple services- and their supply chains
4. Managing the changing dynamics of the Water-Energy-Food Nexus in rural areas
5. Implementing sound and innovative water accounting and auditing to support decision-making and management

- Review of WWF6 targets, solutions, commitments
- An e-Conference, 1 key area of action per week
asia-water.org
- A White Paper on Water and Food Security in the Asia Pacific:
 - Analysis,
 - case studies (inc. 5 sub-regions)
 - broad consultations with stakeholders
 - a new vision
 - a forward-looking agenda
 - a plan for action for water and food security in the Asia Pacific

The session: 120 minutes

1 & 2	10 & 25	1. Introduction: key challenges related to water and food security in Asia Pacific. Managing transitions as the common paradigm (presentation) 2. Sub-regional segment: a vision for agricultural water management and future food security, key transitions and key responses in 5 sub-regions (moderated panel)	1. Thierry Facon 2. TBD (China, Northeast Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia)
3 & 4	10 & 25	3. Key elements of an action plan for water and food security (presentation) 4. Case studies illustrating the action plan (moderated panel)	3. Thierry Facon 4. TBD (5 pp)
5	10	5. A message from the farmer community (intervention)	TBD
6	35	6. Policy dialogue on the Action Plan (moderated panel)	TBD (4 pp.)
7	5	Concluding message	Minister, VIP TBD