

In the run up to the European Development Days 2013



How can more coherent policies lead to improvements in global food security?

Online dialogue

From Monday to Friday, 18-22 November 2013 on the [PCD International Platform](#)

Join the dialogue and have your say in shaping coherent policies for improving global food security!

Outcomes and views will feed into the European Development Days 2013 (EDD) “lab” discussion on “*Global food security and policy coherence for development: A multi-stakeholder approach*” on 27 November 2013 in Brussels.

How to participate?

1. Go to the PCD [Online Platform](#) or click directly on the [PCD Online Discussion Link](#).
2. Comment on one of the questions posed, post your own, or comment and reply to one of the discussion members.
3. You can participate with or without registering, it is very easy!

Contact:

The OECD - Policy Coherence for Development Unit

PCD Platform: <https://community.oecd.org/community/pcd>

For queries, please contact Dorothee Georg, Junior Policy Analyst, PCD Unit: Dorothee.Georg@oecd.org

Context

In today's interconnected global economy, all countries play a role in driving growth and enabling sustainable development. The multidimensionality and increasing complexity of development challenges call for collective action and greater policy coherence to address barriers which constrain development and sustainable and inclusive growth. These areas include trade and barriers to access to markets, knowledge and technology.

National and international efforts need to be supported by enabling environments at the national, regional and global levels. This entails policies that create conditions for a well-functioning global trading system and markets; stable financial systems; sustainable food security; sustainable and inclusive governance and use of natural resources; equitable access to knowledge, innovation and technology; and responsible investment, amongst others.

The process of promoting policy coherence for development (PCD) which has evolved in the OECD over the last two decades has a great potential as a policy tool for creating the enabling environments and policy processes required to respond to today's more complex challenges. Discussions on PCD have frequently taken place among donors on a sector-by-sector basis, being based on a narrative of a world divided into North and South, donors and recipients, and focusing on the need for coherence between aid and non-aid policies and "do no harm". However, given the changes in the global economic landscape, there is a need for broadening the PCD approaches, updating the narratives and upgrading the existing tools and instruments.

This online dialogue is structured according to two overarching elements: 1) policy coherence more generally and how PCD can address global trends shaping the global economy; and 2) food security more specifically and what actions should be undertaken on the PCD front to achieve global food security. These elements will be spread over five sessions, from the 18-22 November 2013 as follows with one session per day.

Day 1: Global trends and how they shape the global development landscape and imply a change for current PCD approaches and the Post-2015 MDG Agenda;

Day 2: Coherence and how we can apply a PCD lens to the issue of global food security;

Day 3: Global actions and how to create the conditions to improve food security on a global level;

Day 4: National efforts and how governments and key stakeholders can shape enabling environments for food security on a national level;

Day 5: Measuring Progress for food security and how evidence-based analysis can support policy making.

This online dialogue is organised by the OECD-PCD Unit as part of its efforts, in the context of the [OECD Strategy on Development](#), to develop a more inclusive and broader approach to policy coherence for development that will be needed to ensure progress in the future global development agenda. It follows up on the discussions held at the Side Event co-hosted by the OECD and Italy on 24 September 2013: "[Shaping Coherent and Collective Action in a post 2015 World: How Policy Coherence for Development can Help Improve Global Food Security](#)", in the context of the UN General Assembly's Special Event towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Furthermore, this online dialogue is held in the run up to the European Development Days. The Policy Coherence for Development Unit of the OECD, together with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Finland and the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development - CONCORD, is organising the lab “*Global Food Security and Policy Coherence for Development - A Multi-stakeholder Approach*” during the **European Development Days**, on Wednesday 27 November 2013 from 14:30-15:45 pm, in the Tour and Taxis premises in Brussels (Lab 2, Roundtable Room). This online dialogue and its outcomes will be presented at the event and will feed into the lab discussion.

Programme and Questions for discussion

Day 1 (Monday, 18 November)

Global Trends

Major trends shaping the global development landscape and implications for PCD approaches and the Post-2015 MDG Agenda.

Changes in the global economic landscape driven by a number of global trends, such as shifting wealth, emerging middle classes, changes in consumption patterns, growing inequalities, urbanisation, migration, growing natural resource scarcity, climate change, innovation, and technological change are generating a new set of opportunities and challenges for development. The global economy is multipolar and all countries play a role in driving growth and enabling sustainable development. These changes have important implications for Policy Coherence for Development (PCD).

Domestic policies implemented by advanced and emerging economies are especially likely to have a global reach and influence the growth and development prospects of lower-income countries. Neglecting the international spill overs of domestic policies can undermine development objectives, as well as the effectiveness of international development co-operation efforts. Furthermore, domestic questions of governance, institutional capacities and politics matter, but a number of externally-driven issues are also important to tackle these challenges.

The **post-2015 development agenda** currently under discussion calls for a coherent approach integrating in a balanced manner the four dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, environmental, and governance and peace-related).

This coherent approach involves working towards a single framework and set of new Goals - universal in nature and applicable to all countries, while taking account of different national circumstances and respecting national policies and priorities.

At the same time, both private and public sources will be needed to finance investment needs associated with the post-2015 agenda.

The **OECD Strategy on Development** provides the framework to make full use of the Organisation's multidisciplinary expertise, evidence-based approaches to policy making, and peer learning working methods, to support this agenda.

Coherent and more integrated approaches will therefore be needed to better understand the links as well as the associated economic, social, and environmental implications of these global trends. In a rapidly

changing global economy in which all countries – as well as other actors – are playing a role in driving global growth and development, there may be a need for a new PCD narrative and policy instruments.

Day 1 of this online discussion will discuss these global trends and its implications for the PCD. Furthermore, it will draw upon the Post-2015 Development Agenda discussion and in what way PCD can play a role in this agenda and in shaping better policies for better lives.

Discussion will be co-moderated by the PCD Unit (Ernesto Soria Morales and Dorothee Georg) and a co-moderator (tbd).

- Is policy coherence for development a relevant concept in today's world?
- What does PCD mean for you (your organisation, your work, or you as an individual) and why is it still important?
- How do we need to change current approaches in promoting policy coherence for development?

Background documents: [OECD and Post-2015 Reflections: Policy coherence for inclusive and sustainable development](#)"; [OECD Strategy on Development](#); [OECD 2008 Ministerial Declaration on Policy Coherence for Development](#); [OECD 2010 Council Recommendations of Good Institutional Practices for Policy Coherence for Development](#).

Applying a PCD lens to the issue of Global Food Security.

Today 827 million people in developing countries still suffer from chronic hunger and undernourishment. Under current conditions the world is not on track in reaching the MDG target of halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger by 2015, although this target may be just barely missed. Improving global food security and nutrition will thus remain a key priority for the global development agenda beyond 2015. It will require greater coherence at national, regional and global levels and across a wide range of economic, social, and environmental areas. It will also require actions by advanced economies, emerging and developing countries, as well as other key stakeholders, such as civil society, the private sector, governments, and international organisations.

Food production will have to increase to feed an estimated world population of nearly 10 billion by 2050, in ways that are safe, healthy and environmentally sustainable. With the changes in consumption patterns from a growing global middle class – projected to exceed more than 3 billion in 2030 – it is estimated that food demand will continue to move towards more resource-intensive agricultural products, putting pressure on water, land, energy and biodiversity resources and thus creating sustainability issues with implications for all.

Did you know that food production will have to increase to feed an estimated world population of nearly 10 billion by 2050?

These needs will have to be consolidated with safe, healthy and environmentally sustainable ways of food production, and take into consideration policies such as market price support policies, trade policies, and other policies, such as R&D, innovation, biofuel policies, and consumer patterns.

In order to address these challenges, there is the need to create the necessary conditions for raising the incomes of poor food consumers and producers alike; enhancing agriculture productivity in all types of farming systems and boosting research and innovation systems with a focus on food production issues; increasing efficiency and ensuring sustainability in the use of land, water and biodiversity resources for food production and agriculture in general; improving climate for trade and investment; reducing waste; and reconciling increased agricultural productivity with other potentially competing objectives and constraints, such as bioenergy production, water scarcity and climate change. The challenges will also entail dealing with systemic conditions that hamper development such as land “grabbing”, price volatility, agricultural subsidies, and barriers to trade, amongst others.

Day 2 of the online dialogue will discuss PCD as a concept to achieve this and other global development objectives and address systemic conditions which might hinder food security. It will discuss PCD as a tool to help analyse spill over effects, such as market distorting policies and other related policies, that affect supply and demand of world food markets, such as trade policies or R&D policies and support. Furthermore, it will discuss new actors and other factors which need to be taken into consideration when analysing how agricultural policies can further food security (OECD, 2012).

Discussion will be co-moderated by the OECD PCD Unit (Ernesto Soria Morales and Carina Lindberg) and a co-moderator (tbd).

- What are the major trends which will shape the future of global food security? How can the availability of and access to food be increased sustainably, and ensure better nutrition?
- What are the biggest challenges in improving global food security?
- How can the increased agricultural productivity be reconciled with other potentially competing objectives and constraints, such as bioenergy, addressing water scarcity, biodiversity and climate change?

Background documents: [Finland's food security and PCD pilot study](#); [OECD Policy Framework for PCD](#) (the "PCD Toolkit"); [Better Policies for Development. In Focus 2013: Policy Coherence for Development and Global Food Security](#). OECD (2012), [Policy Coherence for Development: The Effect of OECD Countries' Agricultural Policies on Developing Countries](#), Room Document 4, DCD/DAC/RD(2012)1/RD4, Paris.

Creating the conditions for improving food security at the global level.

Achieving global food security requires the involvement of a multitude of stakeholders. Governments in all countries as well as international organisations, the private sector, civil society organisations, producers and consumers, have an important role to play in establishing the necessary favourable conditions for improving global food security, as well as food security in their respective societies.

While some issues can and need to be addressed with policies implemented at the national level, there are clear gains from harmonised multilateral action in many areas. For instance, the benefits from widespread trade openness exceed the benefits from unilateral liberalisation on an aggregate level, particularly in the medium and long term. Trade can also play an important role in ensuring that resources are used efficiently and sustainably, and in getting food from surplus to deficit regions.

At the same time, multilateral reforms are needed to ensure that global and regional trading system function more smoothly and fairly than they have in the past.

Did you know? At present, non-OECD countries are the main suppliers to the world fish market: OECD countries import about 60% of their fish from developing countries. However, tariffs for fish and fish products are still in place in major import markets – even if they are low compared to other food products.

Day 3 of the online dialogue will discuss in what way multilateral platforms can be an important vehicle for knowledge sharing, food security and policy coherence. It will analyse different actors and their role, and in how far global actions can contribute to achieving global food security.

Discussion will be co-moderated by the PCD Unit (Dorothee Georg and Ulrike Zeigermann) and Bettina Prato (IFAD).

- What areas (infrastructure development, capacity building, investment, innovation, trade, etc.) do you consider the most important for achieving food security?
- How can we link efforts undertaken at the national and global levels to achieve food security and greater policy coherence?
- What role can different stakeholders (governments, private sector, civil society organisations, etc.) play to create conducive policy frameworks for food security, e.g. in the areas of agriculture, investment, innovation, trade, energy, etc.?

Background documents: OECD (2013), [Global Food Security: Challenges for the Food and Agriculture System](#), OECD Publishing; OECD-FAO (2013), [Agricultural Outlook 2013-2022](#), OECD Publishing; Moïsé, E. et al. (2013), [“Estimating the Constraints to Agricultural Trade of Developing Countries”](#), OECD Trade Policy Papers, No. 142, OECD Publishing. For more information, please consult the OECD Trade and Agricultural Directorate’s [Website](#).

Shaping enabling environments conducive to sustainable food and nutrition security.

The central challenge for achieving global food security is to eradicate poverty and to raise the incomes of the poor so that they can afford the food they need to lead healthy lives. The ultimate responsibility for doing this lies with national governments.

OECD analysis stresses that the mix of policies needed to ensure food security varies according to a country's level of structural circumstances, including its comparative advantage in agricultural activities. Approximately two-thirds of the world's poor live in rural areas, where farming is the principal economic activity. Policies therefore need to raise the incomes of rural households in general and smallholder farmers in particular. This calls for coherent policies that support agricultural development, while also helping to create diversified rural economies with opportunities within and outside farming.

In that vein, this Day 4 of the dialogue will discuss how coherence for development can help governments to establish framework conditions that complement and encourage responsible investment, support development, create opportunities and ultimately support food security.

Discussion will be co-moderated by the PCD Unit (Ulrike Zeigermann and Dorothee Georg) and Dr. David Nyange, Policy Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania.

- What actions can governments and key stakeholders undertake at national levels to support global food security?
- What role do governments have to play in ensuring sustainable agriculture productivity, facilitating trade and increasing investment?
- How can governments promote more innovation and investment in partnership with the private sector?

Background documents: [OECD \(2012\): "Policy coherence and Food Security: The effects of OECD countries' agricultural policies", Paper prepared for the 2012 OECD Global Forum on Agriculture, Paris; OECD Policy Framework for Investment in Agriculture](#); OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises ([MNE Guidelines](#)).

Measuring policy coherence for food security.

There are inherent challenges in obtaining robust evidence on the cause-and-effect chains between policies and impacts in a more complex global context. As a result, different ways of measuring progress on PCD need to be identified.

One way of measuring policy coherence would be to identify coherent and incoherent policies, and quantify the incidence of policies or policy efforts, by computing indicators. Existing indicators in the OECD or partner databases can also help measure factors that may contribute to or hinder food security.

The challenge, however, is to measure all the causal links to food security and policies, such as policy changes, effects on world markets, cross border price transmissions, etc.

Measuring policy coherence for food security is therefore a complex issue. This Day 5 of the online dialogue would like to hear your views on this and discuss how evidence-based policies and measuring coherence can contribute to increasing food security.

Discussion will be co-moderated by the PCD Unit (Carina Lindberg and Ernesto Soria Morales) and a co-moderator (tbd).

- How could one ensure that policy efforts are measurable?
- How can we better track the impact of policies on development? What changes to current practices are needed?
- What have been the limitations of existing indicators/ indices/ monitoring frameworks? What actions can be taken to overcome these constraints?

Background documents: [Better Policies for Development. In Focus 2013: Policy Coherence for development and Global Food Security](#); [Concept Note: Using OECD indicators to assess PCD](#); [Finland's food security and PCD pilot study](#); [OECD Policy Framework for PCD](#) (the "PCD Toolkit").

Assessing progress on policy coherence for development

The OECD has for more than 20 years provided internationally recognised measures of support and protection in agriculture for its member countries. Monitoring the composition of that support over time shows that countries have reduced the share of total support that is most trade-distorting. On average, support to agricultural producers in the OECD area has decreased from around 30% of gross farm receipts in the mid-90s to less than 20% at the beginning of the 2010s. This is good for development.

Background

The Policy Coherence for Development Unit of the OECD, together with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Finland and the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development - CONCORD, is organising the lab “*Global Food Security and Policy Coherence for Development - A Multi-stakeholder Approach*” during the **European Development Days**, on Wednesday 27 November 2013 from 14:30-15:45 pm, in the Lab Session 2 Roundtable Room, Tour and Taxis premises in Brussels.

This interactive lab aims to convene in a multi-stakeholder dialogue high-level representatives from governments, international organisations, business associations and civil society organisations to discuss how to achieve food security and progress in the future development agenda. The lab aims to (i) inform how coherent domestic and international policies in the area of agriculture can generate framework conditions conducive to food security; (ii) present and disseminate the outcomes of the “Better Policies for Development. In Focus: PCD and Global Food Security” publication; (iii) present Finland's food security and PCD pilot study, based on the OECD [PCD Toolkit](#); and (iv) explore ways and existing tools and indicators to monitor progress on improving policy coherence for food security.

The outcomes of the online dialogue, including the participants’ opinions and policy messages, will be presented at and integrated in at the Global Food Security and PCD Lab discussion.

Panellists are:

- **Pekka Haavisto**, *Minister for International Development*, Finland;
- **John Clarke**, *Director for International Affairs II*, Directorate-General for Agriculture & Rural Development, European Commission;
- **Dr David Nyange**, *Policy Advisor*, Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania;
- **Jonathan Brooks**, *Senior Agricultural Policy Analyst*, OECD; and
- **Rilli Lappalainen**, *Member of Board* of CONCORD.

Mark Tran (*Correspondent, Global Development*, The Guardian) will moderate the discussion.

We invite you to join this dialogue and have your say in shaping coherent policies for improving global food security.

Outcomes and views of this dialogue will feed into the European Development Days 2013 (EDD) lab discussion on “Global food security and policy coherence for development: A multi-stakeholder approach” on 27 November 2013 in Brussels.