

ROSA Newsletter



OPERATIONAL FOOD SECURITY NETWORK

Number 34 | January 2012

SUMMARY: A review of the Durban Summit on Climate Change: Agriculture in the international negotiations > Water and food security at the 6th World Water Forum > Agenda > Actualités du réseau

ZOOM



A review of the Durban Summit on Climate Change: Agriculture in the international negotiations

Since 1992, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been the institutional framework in which signatory countries have undertaken to combat climate change and negotiate ways to achieve this¹. The Kyoto Protocol, related to this Convention, is the only international legally binding instrument for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in industrialised countries, based on quantified targets². During the 13th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in December 2007, the signatory countries of the Framework Convention launched a negotiating process to reach a new multilateral climate regime. The Copenhagen summit in 2009 was supposed to end this process. Because it failed to do so, negotiations continued until Cancun (2010), then Durban (2011). Three major issues were brought to the negotiating table in Durban: (i) the future of the Kyoto Protocol whose first implementation (also called “commitment”) period expires at the end of 2012, (ii) the possibility to restart negotiating global agreement involving *all* emitting countries under the auspices of the Convention³, and (iii) the legal status of the future climate agreement. Countries also had to work towards operationalising the Cancun Agreements (2010) as well as negotiating on other important questions left open, especially financing.

The negotiations at the 17th Conference of the Parties led to a minimal agreement, reached after 36 hours of prolongation. The Durban Accords are made up of a set of decisions that pave the way for future negotiations on climate change: (i) continuing the Kyoto Protocol in a second commitment period, (ii) adopting a mandate to reach a new global agreement on climate, (iii) the operationalisation of the Cancun agreements, with progress particularly on adaptation and the Green Climate Fund. The “Durban Package” maintains the legitimacy of the multilateral framework of negotiations, but the decisions taken seem insufficient for combating climate change effectively. This article reviews the main outcomes of the Durban Summit and presents a progress report on the discussions on agriculture within the international climate negotiations.

¹ This Convention laid the foundations for a multilateral regime, but contains no specific, quantified targets.

² The Kyoto Protocol came into force in 2005, and compels the 38 signatory countries to meet specific targets to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

³ USA and emerging countries included.

ROSA is
an initiative of the:



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

The Durban “Package”: An unambitious agreement given what is at stake

Despite significant progress, the Durban Agreements (see Box 1) are singularly lacking in ambition. Even if the countries comply with the Durban Agreements, the measures will probably fail to limit the warming of global average temperature to less than 2°C. Given the record CO₂ emissions and most recent estimates⁴, global warming could be as much as +4°C. Nevertheless, all the countries involved in the Durban Agreements have formally recognised this gap between the current level of commitment and the efforts needed to limit temperature increases.

At the core of the Durban Agreement is a compromise between the European Union and the high emission emerging countries, particularly India and China. The European Union agreed to continue its commitment to the Kyoto Protocol, despite the absence of the other main emitting countries⁵. In return, all the countries agreed to negotiate a new climate agreement by 2015 and to make it operational by 2020. The new regime will involve emission reduction efforts that are fairly shared between all countries, whether developed or developing. However, the legal nature of the agreement remains to be defined. The Durban Agreements mention that the future climate deal will take the form of a “*protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force*”.

Progress on adaptation to climate change

The Cancun Agreements, with the creation of the Cancun Adaptation Framework (see Box 2), marked an important stage in the acknowledgement of the importance of adaptation to climate change. Parties adopted technical decisions that enabled the implementation and enhancement of the Cancun agreements.

First, countries validated the composition of the Adaptation Committee, the central body of the Adaptation Framework, with a balanced geographical spread of Parties. The Committee is open to observers so that all stakeholders (NGOs, local governments, researchers) can be involved. However, the specific modalities of this invitation are to be decided during the next few years.

BOX 1. Four main decisions in Durban

- **The creation of the Durban Platform “for Enhanced Action.”** By 2015, this new working group under the Convention will negotiate a global climate agreement, involving all emitting countries (including China, India and the USA) to come into force by 2020. This agreement will take the form of “*a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force.*” This is an important decision because, for the first time, the emitting developing countries have officially accepted the idea of submitting to emission mitigation targets. It also marks the return, in the negotiations, of a top down approach, in which international targets are applied at the national level. [Click to access the decision >>>](#)
- **The continuation of the Kyoto Protocol.** Some of the Kyoto Protocol member states agreed to commit to a second commitment period, after 2012. They still have to decide on the length of this period (until 2017 or 2020). The European Union is in favour of an eight-year period. Although this progress was far from being a foregone conclusion, it must be relativised. Only a few countries are still committed to the Protocol, accounting for less than 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Some of the countries subjected to obligations refused to recommit, including Canada, Russia and Japan. [Click to access the decision >>>](#)
- **Decision of the Ad Hoc Working Group on “Long term Cooperative Action” (AWG-LCA) under the Convention.** The AWG-LCA was created by the Bali Action Plan in 2007. While it was to have concluded a global agreement in 2009, its mandate has been extended. The AWG-LCA decision in Durban resulted begins to to implement parts of the Cancun Agreements. It also allows agriculture to be officially included in the Climate Convention. Finally, it marks progress in adaptation to climate change and the Technology Mechanism. [Click to access the decision >>>](#)
- **The operationalisation of the Green Climate Fund.** The Green Fund, instated by the Cancun Agreements, still needed to be operationalised. The Durban Package decided on part of the governance of the Fund and launched its operational work. However, it fails to specify the medium and long term financing sources that are needed to prevent the Fund from being an empty shell. [Click to access the decision >>>](#)

⁴ See for instance: UNEP, *Bridging the Emission Gap Report*, 2011 ; IEA, *World Energy Outlook*, 2011.

⁵ The European Union is in favour of setting up an ambitious, complete and legally binding framework for climate involving all the major emitting countries. The framework must be based on clear rules and keep the essential components of the Kyoto Protocol.

In operational terms, progress was made in Durban on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). Guidelines have been determined to help draw up and implement NAPs in developing countries, by integrating them into development planning processes. The Convention is to provide support in this process for the least developed countries. However, the question of financing for these plans remains to be clarified.

BOX 2. The Adaptation Framework and the National Adaptation Plans

The Adaptation Framework decided in 2010 aims to increase the resilience and build adaptation capacities of countries and groups facing the impacts of climate change. The Adaptation Committee is part of this framework, acting as a reference body of the Climate Convention to coordinate the adaptation of countries and regions. It operates via workshops, groups of experts, writing and circulating information and capitalisation reports, coordination and discussions with relevant bodies inside and outside of the Climate Convention. It will meet twice a year. Authorised observers will be able to take part.

The NAPs are voluntary measures that developing countries can implement, if developed countries provide them with adequate Financial and technical support. These plans aim to combat the vulnerability of developing

A small step forward for agriculture

Agriculture is one of the most vulnerable sectors to the effects of climate change. It is also an emitting sector, contributing 14% of all world emissions of greenhouse gas (without accounting for land use change). Despite its importance in both adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, for many years the farming sector was excluded from decisions adopted under the Climate Convention. Nevertheless, since the Copenhagen Conference in 2009, a text on agriculture was being negotiated, but remained almost unchanged between 2009 and 2011⁶.

Agriculture was an important subject in Durban. Several countries—including South Africa—worked hard to see a decision on agriculture adopted in Durban. Eventually, a very short compromise text was adopted in the last hours of the Conference. This is the first time agriculture appears in a decision under the UNFCCC. The text acknowledges the importance of addressing agricultural issues as in the climate negotiations⁷, but postpones the modalities of the discussions until the next conference, in December 2012. While adopting a Work Programme on agriculture under the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice of the Convention had been discussed extensively, countries did not reach a consensus on this point. The text simply states that the Subsidiary Body should “consider” the issue of agriculture with the “aim of exchanging views”⁸ and lead to a decision by the Parties. Yet it is not clear how agriculture will be “considered” exactly.

The minimal content of the Durban decision contrasts strongly with the wealth of debates on agriculture during the two weeks of negotiations and during side events. Many observers (NGOs, international organisations, cooperation agencies) have organised workshops and conferences on the subject, and notably a special day on rural and agricultural development in parallel to the official discussions.

The weakness of the Durban decision on agriculture is due to more or less explicit disagreements on a number of issues: (i) the level of attention given to adaptation in agriculture compared to mitigation, (ii) impacts of climate policies in agriculture on the international trade of agricultural products, (iii) the role of the carbon market to reduce the sector's emissions⁹, and (iv) the level of attention given to smallholders from the Global South, for whom adaptation is a priority¹⁰. African countries requested that sectoral—including farming—approaches to greenhouse gas emission mitigation should only involve historical emitting countries. They demand that agricultural adaptation be addressed outside a potential Work Programme on sectoral emission reduction in agriculture, while some countries in Durban called for the opposite.

⁶ The Bali Action Plan, which has organised negotiations since 2007, placed discussions on agriculture in the chapter on “Cooperative sectoral approaches” to mitigation of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long term Cooperative Action under the Convention. As early as 2009, this discussion framework was deemed unsatisfactory because it emphasises the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. As a result, references to adaptation, food security and smallholders were included in the preamble of the chapter. However, no agreement on the text was reached in 2009 and 2010, because other subjects blocked negotiations on agriculture. The relationship with international trade, which was also introduced in 2009 in the preamble, was a particular stumbling block. Countries like Brazil fear that policies which aim to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the agriculture sector become a barrier to the free trade of food products.

⁷ The part of the preamble concerning safeguards and the relationship with food security is not in this decision.

⁸ Countries and observers are invited to submit papers on modalities of discussions on agriculture within the UNFCCC by 5 March 2012.

Progress at grassroots level despite the lack of political consensus

Despite the difficulties in reaching international agreement on how to include agriculture in the fight against climate change, many initiatives are being created at all levels, outside of the multilateral framework. Several international organisations, cooperation agencies and research institutions have launched specific programmes on “**climate-smart agriculture**” (see Box 3). This concept, which first appeared in 2010, was present in many discussions on the fringe of the Durban negotiations. Pilot schemes are underway or have just begun. Methods are also being drawn up for measuring the CO₂ sequestered in soils in order to promote such techniques through the voluntary carbon market. Although action research projects and pilots schemes can provide useful lessons learned and help in policy design, care needs to be taken over possible risks and negative effects, if the growing rift between political discussions and grassroots actions were to increase.

Challenges and Issues after Durban

The Durban Conference led to decisions that reaffirmed the importance of the multilateral framework of the negotiations. However, the outcome is limited both in terms of countries' climate ambition and more technical and/or sectoral issues, such as agriculture.

When it comes to the general ambition of countries to fight against climate change, they keep postponing (to 2020) what they should have started doing in 2009. The return of the top down approach is a means to preserve the multilateral framework of negotiations and maintain the possibility of a new, ambitious and legally binding climate deal. Yet, whether the new Durban Platform created for this purpose will achieve its goal by 2015 is not certain.

BOX 3. “Climate-Smart Agriculture”: History, Examples and Implementation Issues

“Climate-smart” agriculture is a concept promoted since 2010, and especially in 2011, by several international organisations (FAO and the World Bank), pursuant to a report published by the FAO¹¹. The different partners are using this term to promote changes in agriculture that help fight climate change. In Durban, the discussions on climate-smart agriculture were very present in the side events and workshops.

However, the term may appear unclear, or not very new. The idea is to promote agriculture that meets the triple challenge of mitigation, adaptation and food security, which is in fact an objective, not a definition. Examples of climate-smart agriculture include agroforestry and the use of improved, resilient seeds that can be used with minimum tilling techniques. It is based on proven and tested practices and techniques that could be improved with better weather forecasts and more accurate scientific information on the local impacts of climate change. Some organisations also recommend using insurance systems to cover climate risks.

However, the concept is fairly vague and can cover approaches that pull in opposite directions. These questions must be considered, since climate-smart agricultural projects are making their appearance in developing countries. An international framework needs to be defined to coordinate and regulate these activities nationally and locally. This would set out categories of climate-smart agriculture, place safeguards and promote an integrated, effective and fair use of international climate financing in the agricultural sector.

⁹ Some countries encourage the development of an international, sectoral emission-trading scheme. This would allow them to offset their agricultural emissions (which are sometimes very high, as in New Zealand) by paying for emission mitigation in developing countries.

¹⁰ Some countries and observers fear that the positions of industrialised countries on agriculture will not favour family farming, either because they fail to give it serious consideration, or because they believe that their intention to incorporate agriculture into the carbon market in the long term will be hazardous to family farming.

¹¹ FAO, *Climate-Smart Agriculture: Policies, Practices and Financing for Food Security, Adaptation, and Mitigation*, 2010.

While including agriculture in an official decision is a major breakthrough, much remains to be done. The way agriculture is addressed in the climate negotiations (in the chapter on sectoral approaches to reducing emissions), means that agriculture cannot be considered holistically. Agricultural negotiations under the Convention should promote a more holistic vision of climate action in agriculture. This approach could be the one adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice, whose mandate needs to be defined at the next Conference of the Parties, in Doha (Qatar).

Discussions within the Climate Convention must continue to play an important role on the inter-linkages between agriculture and climate change. However, the UNFCCC must at all costs maintain dialogue with the entities specialised in the global governance of agriculture and food security (FAO, World Food Security Committee) in order to adopt a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to agriculture, food security and climate change.

Views on Current Issues



Water and food security at the 6th World Water Forum

Held in Marseille in March 2012, the 6th World Water Forum will be the “forum for solutions”. It is intended to identify practical solutions and generate commitments to implement them through the involvement of a large array of stakeholders. The Forum will address twelve thematic priorities and specific working groups have been established for each priority. Each of these groups is expected to cover the important aspects and produce clear proposals for potential solutions. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) are coordinating the preparation of the theme “contribute to food security by optimal use of water”. In this interview, Bart Schultz from ICID presents the preparatory process and key proposals that will be discussed during the Forum. He emphasises that the first responsibility to take action rests with the national and/or regional governments.

1. How are the issues of water and food security being addressed at the WWF?

By 2050, the world's population is expected to increase by about 35% and nearly all of this population rise will occur in urban areas. Urbanisation will bring with it changes in life styles and consumption patterns. The population growth combined with the expected rise in living standards (in particular in emerging countries) will require a substantial increase in food production to ensure sustainable food security. Various organisations estimate that food production will need to double over the next 25-30 years. Achieving such an increase seems possible, provided that significant improvements are made along the full chain of options from supply to demand, i.e., from producer to consumer. The thematic priority “contribute to food security by optimal use of water” (thematic priority 2.2.) has identified nine targets that address the relevant aspects. Improvement of the cultivated areas, in particular those without water management systems, is required. But the real contribution would have to come from improvement and extension of agricultural water management in the production areas most vulnerable to climate variability. Another key challenge is how to ensure both food availability and access for all at affordable prices. Special attention needs to be paid to the governance of groundwater and the use of non-conventional waters. Post-harvest losses have to be addressed to reduce unnecessary waste; the sustainability of diets and prevention of child undernutrition must also be addressed. Last but not least, particular efforts need to be made to support smallholder farmers in order to limit the deterioration of their situation, guarantee their water rights, and increase their production of goods and services and their revenues.

2. How were the different stakeholders involved in the WWF's preparatory process?

The preparatory process aims to be as inclusive as possible. FAO and ICID organised a series of interactive sessions. The process aimed to foster understanding the current challenges and future options in a set of introductory sessions followed by detailed sessions to move from priority targets to action with proposed solutions. FAO and ICID also undertook a broad, extensive online consultation to collect stakeholders' "voices". The surveys were designed to gather comments on identified targets. We would like to engage key stakeholders both online before the WWF and face to face during the Forum to ensure that interested people have an opportunity to influence action plans and recommendations on water and food security. In addition to this, each group facilitated consultation and information activities within its own organisations. For example, ICID is the coordinator of two groups (III and V). We have sent draft reports to all our member countries and within our network in order to get feedback and comments, in particular on proposed solutions.

3. What are the main proposals that will be discussed during the Forum and how will the debate continue after WWF6?

During the preparatory process clear sets of actions were formulated by the target and solution groups and milestones have been defined for their implementation. Potential solutions will be presented in twelve sessions during the 6th World Water Forum, along with an opening session, a multi-stakeholder panel and a synthesis session. The last session will integrate the various relevant aspects and formulate recommendations and commitments, primarily based on the action plans presented. These actions plans will help to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to address

AGENDA



Forthcoming events

16 February: The EU's Common Agricultural Policy. InfoPoint – Brussels

22 February: Brussels Development Briefing: Briefing on pastoralism >>>

28 February: Europe, Africa and food security. A dialogue between European authorities, Member States and civil society – Brussels

12-17 March: 6th World Water Forum - Marseille >>>

June : G20 Summit - Los Cabos (Mexico) >>>

20-22 June : Rio+20 Summit - Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) >>>

October : 38th session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

For more information:
[Upcoming events](#)

Past events

International scientific symposium on food & nutrition security information (17-19 January 2012, Rome): Ten years after the first International Scientific Symposium (ISS), a new symposium was convened by the FAO to review recent advances in measuring food and nutrition security information, examine tools and practices to better link information and decision-making and determine future research and analysis needs. >>>

What is behind successful nutrition policies? (19-20 January 2012): IDS and DFID convened a roundtable to share learning from experiences building political commitment around national nutrition policies. Participants included officials from eight countries, experts from cooperation agencies and researchers. Several key messages were identified about implementing nutrition policies: i) national governments are important in putting nutrition on the political agenda and creating organisations to coordinate action across ministries and local governments; ii) coordinated funding mechanisms administered by national governments support long term implementation of nutrition policies; and iii) developing, analysing and disseminating nutrition data is key to supporting advocacy movements and building political commitment around clear targets. The outcomes of the meeting are summarised in a synthesis paper. The next steps following this workshop are the publication of a policy brief and the case studies. >>>

Conference on Combating Malnutrition through sustainable interventions (8 November 2011, Brussels): Convened by the Public Advice International Foundation (PA International) in association with The Parliament Magazine, this conference brought together 200 key stakeholders from international and European organisations. The programme included contributions from representatives of EU Member States, the European Commission (DGs DEVCO and ECHO), the

European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Parliament, ASEAN, UNICEF, WFP, GAIN, leading representatives of the NGO community, universities and private sector. Participants discussed three key questions: i) the position and relative importance of nutrition within EU development policy (and the national and European levels) and the allocation of funding, ii) the importance of sustainability in ensuring long-term nutrition programmes and iii) the role of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in contributing to the fight against malnutrition. Discussions highlighted that the EU must take up a leadership role in the fight against malnutrition. A call went out, both by the signatories to the "Call for an EU Policy on Nutrition" and by the representative of the French Government, for the EU to commence work on a dedicated Communication on Nutrition.>>>

EC's latest news

EU Millennium Development Goals Initiative to tackle hunger, child mortality, maternal health and access to water: Announced in September 2010 at the UN Summit in New York, the EU MDG initiative mobilizes additional funding to support the achievement of the MDGs in ACP countries. It envisages a total extra financial effort of €1 billion (unallocated funds from the 10th EDF). This initiative has been designed around two components, a need-based one, targeting the most off-track MDGs¹², and a performance-based one, focusing on countries that have shown good performance in implementing aid. Adopted in December 2011, the first component (€700 million) focuses on efforts to reduce hunger and child mortality, improve maternal health, and secure better drinking and sanitation facilities. Most of the projects to be implemented will start late 2012. For this purpose, the EC and EU delegations are currently working on the preparation of detailed project design and specific financing proposals for all the actions to be supported. They work in coordination with EU Member States representations as well as national authorities in the partner countries. The second, performance-based component is currently in the process of being allocated. It will provide €300 million as a reward to 18 well-performing countries, in the framework of the 10th EDF Mid-term Review.

Future directions for EU development policy: In autumn 2010, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the future of development policy and on the instrument of budget support. This confirmed the relevance of the existing policy framework, while agreeing on the need to increase impact. As a result of this process, the Commission published two new communications in October 2011. These policy documents intend to increase the impact of EU development policy and reform proposals for EU budget support. In the Communication "Agenda for change", the Commission proposes to refocus the EU's aid priorities, including a more targeted allocation of funding (fewer sectors and countries most in need). The second communication sets out a new policy on budget support and puts a strong emphasis on contractual partnership. The main principles of the 12-point Agenda for Change will be progressively reflected in the remainder of the current programming cycles and then in future EU programming. In spring 2012, the Commission will ask EU Development Ministers to endorse the Agenda for Change as well as the new EU budget support approach.

Communication « Increasing the impact of EU development policy: An agenda for change » - COM(2011) 637 final >>>

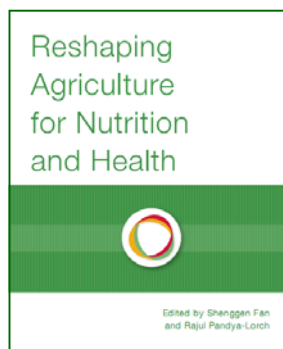
Communication « The future approach to EU budget support to third countries » - COM(2011) 638 final >>>

¹²For a full list of countries and targeted MDGs, see [MEMO/11/930](#).



New online documents

Nutrition



- ***Reshaping agriculture for nutrition and health, Shenggen Fan and Rajul Pandya-Lorch, IFPRI – 2012***

This book is a compilation of peer-reviewed background papers and briefs commissioned by IFPRI for the international conference “Leveraging Agriculture for Improving Nutrition and Health,” which took place in New Delhi in February 2011. Leading experts, practitioners and policymakers explore the links among agriculture, nutrition and health. How much more could agriculture do to improve food security if it included specific actions and interventions to achieve health and nutrition goals? What kinds of changes would maximize agriculture’s contribution to health and nutrition, and how could health and nutrition contribute to a productive and sustainable agricultural system? These questions are discussed in the book to stimulate concrete actions to leverage agriculture to improve nutrition and health. >>>

- ***Advocacy matters: Helping children change their world. A guide to advocacy, Save the Children – November 2011***

This guide consists of two complementary manuals: the Facilitator’s Manual and the Participant’s Manual – designed to be used together. The Facilitator’s Manual is aimed at anyone who is designing or facilitating an advocacy workshop, including people who don’t have much experience as trainers or as advocates. It contains information on how to design, plan and run a workshop, plus individual session plans. The Participant’s Manual contains background material on each topic, case stories, and references to further resources. It is a resource guide for both facilitators and participants. >>>



Social transfers

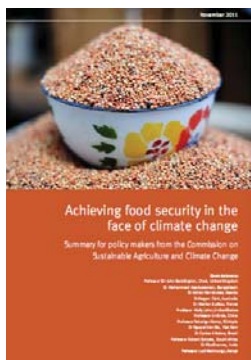
- ***Global food stamps: An idea worth considering? Addressing problems of hunger through vouchers, ICTSD – August 2011***

This paper reviews the analytical argument for addressing problems of hunger and food insecurity through ‘food stamps’ or ‘vouchers’ distributed to poor consumers. The author proposes an international scheme establishing a framework through which consumer subsidies could be provided to the poorest consumers in developing countries. In particular, the author looks at examples of food stamp programmes in the USA, Sri Lanka, Jamaica and Mexico. The report reaches major conclusions and recommendations >>>

Food security and climate change

- ***Food security: Climate change, migrations and conflicts in the Sahel, UNEP, International Migration Office, OCHA, UNU, CILSS – 2011***

This report presents the results of an analysis of climate change for nine CILSS countries and 8 countries of ECOWAS. The main objective is to examine the relationship between climate change, migration and conflict. >>>



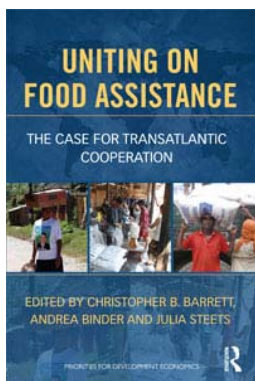
- ***Achieving food security in the face of climate change, Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change - November 2011***

This report is a summary for decision-makers on the conclusions of the Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change's work, which was published just before the Durban Conference on climate change. The Commission is a working group created by CGIAR that gathers a dozen international academics. It has reviewed the scientific evidence to identify a pathway to achieving food security in the context of climate change. >>>

Food aid

- ***Uniting on food assistance: The case for transatlantic cooperation, The Global Public Policy Institute and Cornell University – 2012***

This book on humanitarian food assistance is the result of a 14-month research project, funded by the European Commission. This project looked at how the international community responds to food crises, how the two largest donors of international food assistance – the United States and the European Commission – provide food assistance and how increased cooperation among the transatlantic donors can improve the effectiveness of their assistance. The resulting volume features in-depth analysis on the global governance of food assistance, provides a mapping of key EU and US institutions engaged with food assistance and highlights some of the biggest challenges for food assistance. Aimed at policymakers, practitioners, researchers and students, the book is a resource for all those interested in the evolution of food assistance and the key challenges that donors and aid agencies face. >>>



Training

- ***E-learning Course on social safety nets, FAO and WB - December 2011***

The course is aimed at decision makers, who may not be technical experts, but need to understand the best options for implementing social safety nets in their specific context. The course highlights the key issues to be considered for making the right decisions. It is also useful for anyone wishing to gain a solid overview of Social Safety Nets. Case studies provide examples of good practices. >>>

External links

- ***Linking agriculture, food systems and nutrition: What's your perspective?, FAO, Global Forum on food security and nutrition – February 2012***

The Global Forum on food security and nutrition launched an online discussion to explore ways to leverage agriculture and food systems for improving nutrition in a more sustainable and equitable manner. The topic of nutrition-sensitive food systems is of high priority and is gaining international attention through initiatives such as the Scaling-Up Nutrition movement (SUN), REACH, the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition and the updated comprehensive framework for action of the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis. Visit the [FSN Forum](#) to contribute to this online discussion and share your experiences of projects and programmes that have resulted in improved nutritional outcomes.

- ***Capacity4dev.eu Newsletter, February 2012***

This month the magazine features a majority of articles linked to the work of colleagues in EU Delegations (Zambia and Afghanistan) as well as in EuropeAid (workshops on Civil Society and Governance, and two EC papers: one report on Gender and a communication on Trade and Development). You will find an article on the role of Public-Private Partnerships in tackling malnutrition.

<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu>

- ***“Producer organisations faced with land pressure in West Africa,” Synthesis bulletin on food security No.4, Inter-réseaux - January 2012***

This bulletin focuses on land issues, and in particular the phenomenon described as: "land grab", "large scale acquisitions," "privatization and land concentration", "investment in land " etc. The newsletter reviews the causes of this phenomenon, the role of government, the necessary reforms, and the mobilization of civil society.

<http://www.inter-reseaux.org/IMG/pdf/BDS4-Foncier.pdf>

- ***Innovative approaches to gender and food security: insights. Coll. "Food Security Insight", IDS - January 2012***

This issue of "Insights" shows how development policy and practice can potentially improve food security while supporting women's empowerment. They can focus on women's critical role as food producers, consumers and family carers, while transforming gender inequalities within households and communities.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/idspublication/innovative-approaches-to-gender-and-food-security-insights>

- ***“Time for action,” Parliament Magazine's special supplement on combating malnutrition, PA International – December 2011***

This supplement contains various articles and interviews on how the European Union can help combating malnutrition. It presents multiple viewpoints on all of the dimensions of food insecurity and malnutrition. It examines how to stem the tide of malnutrition across the world. The magazine also reports on a recent high-level conference in Brussels, organised by PA International, which argued that tackling malnutrition is an economic and political necessity. The magazine concludes with an open letter calling for an European Union policy on nutrition. <http://www.pa-international.org/documents/TimeforAction-aParliamentMagazineSpecialSupplementonCombattingMalnutrition.pdf>

- ***Nutridev website***

This website is devoted to nutrition issues in developing countries. It presents the activities carried out jointly by GRET and the French Institute for Development Research (IRD) for 17 years through Nutridev, a multi-country program to fight against malnutrition. Besides an overview of ongoing projects, it provides access to a set of key resources on this issue are available online (website of the main organisations involved in nutrition, documents, etc.). *This website is in French.*

<http://www.nutridev.org/>

Network activities

- ***Video guidelines for ROSA:*** What is ROSA about? How the network could support your daily work? Through concrete examples, this short video illustrates how you could use ROSA's services and how each one of you can help improve information and knowledge on food security. Pictures speak louder than words, so let's see some of what ROSA is about. >>>

Contacts :

EuropeAid-ROSA@ec.europa.eu
animation@reseau-rosa.eu

This bulletin was written by the GRET team in charge of animating ROSA.

The network is an initiative of EuropeAid (Unit C1 – Rural development, food security and nutrition in collaboration with Unit R7 – Training, knowledge management, internal communication, documentation).

The points expressed do not reflect the official position of the European Commission.