

Food Security Task Force Concrete Actions for Los Cabos – draft as of May 6, 2012

The aim of the B20 Food Security Task Force is to contribute to the G20 food security agenda in 2012. The Task Force recommendations aim to encourage private sector engagement, and achieve greater alignment among all stakeholders, to accelerate and implement national food and nutrition security programmes. The Task Force draws upon the New Vision for Agriculture, which emphasizes the interlinkages between food security, environmental sustainability and economic opportunity, and places the farmer at the center of multi-stakeholder efforts to improve agriculture productivity and food security. In particular, the Task Force encourages a shift from aid to entrepreneurship in the approach to empowering farmers, with a goal of building the capacity and a market environment that will enable farmers to thrive as the frontline providers of sustainable food security.

Significantly enhance public and private-sector investment to achieve a 50% increase in agricultural production and productivity by 2030.

Recommended industry commitments:

- The private sector should **increase investments in agriculture** to help reach the goal of increasing both production and productivity by 50% by 2030, and improving smallholder farmers' livelihoods.
- Sectors represented by the Task Force plan to invest an additional USD 10-15 billion, expanding market and input access for 3-5 million smallholder farmers, and improving income and productivity of 2-3 million women farmers.
- Investments should **ensure the sustainable use of resources**, including farming inputs; and should expand market access for smallholder farmers, especially women.

Recommended public-sector commitments:

- Governments should **create an enabling environment** for private-sector investment through establishing effective public-policy frameworks and incentives, and investing in essential infrastructure and services.
- Governments should **increase their investments in agriculture** to help reach the goal of increasing both production and productivity by 50% by 2030, and improving smallholder farmers' livelihoods. Policy measures can be targeted to **catalyze, de-risk and incentivize sustainable private-sector investment** in agriculture and food value chains. Public programmes should also be designed to **empower women farmers**.
- Government investments should **take an integrated approach to strengthen whole value chains** by improving infrastructure, boosting productivity and reducing waste.
- Policy measures, including subsidies, should **encourage sustainable use of resources**.
- Promote **financial service provision** in rural areas from a diverse and complementary array of providers including farmer organisations, microfinance institutions and commercial banks.

Metrics to track success:

- Currently Available Measures: Public sector investments in agriculture as a percentage of agricultural GDP
- Proposed future measures: Private-sector investment in agriculture; Average income and rates of market access among smallholder farmers; Total factor productivity in agriculture, across countries

Strengthen national-level food security programmes, supported by public private partnerships.

A key strategy for implementing many of the actions is the implementation of robust national-level agriculture and food security programmes, supported by national-level public-private partnerships. Such partnerships, currently piloted in 11 countries by the World Economic Forum's New Vision for Agriculture initiative, can provide a coordinating platform for multi-stakeholder initiatives to achieve shared goals for increasing the productivity and sustainability of local agriculture systems. They also provide a forum to jointly address risks and obstacles encountered in the enabling environment, and to develop new opportunities for small-scale farmers.

Recommended multi-stakeholder commitments:

- The private sector can deepen its engagement in such collaborative initiatives, and share learnings from existing efforts.
- Governments can enable such partnerships through leadership by Heads of State to drive public-private collaboration and action, ensuring that all stakeholders including farmers are fully engaged.
- Donor agencies and international organizations also play important roles through providing catalytic finance and sharing best practices across regions.

Metrics to track success:

- Currently available measures: Number of countries with robust national food security plans; number of countries implementing national-level public-private partnerships in coordination with the World Economic Forum New Vision for Agriculture Initiative and Africa focused Grow Africa partnership