Inclusive and coordinated approaches for sustainable food value chains

Lessons and examples from the field

Siobhan Kelly, Agribusiness Economist
Elena Ilie, Agribusiness Consultant
Agriculture Development Economics Division
FAO Strategic Objectives

- Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.
- Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable.
- Reduce rural poverty.
- Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems.
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.
Approaches for achieving sustainability

- Sustainable Food Value Chains (SFVC)
- Inclusive Business Models (IBMs)
- Addressing the ‘hidden’ middle approach
- Reducing food loss and food waste
Sustainable Food Value Chains

- A **sustainable** food value chain:
  - is profitable throughout *(economic sustainability)*;
  - has broad-based benefits for society *(social sustainability)* and
  - shows a positive or neutral impact on the natural environment *(environmental sustainability)*.
Sustainable Food Value Chains

Market-oriented and systems-based approach for measuring, analysing and improving the performance of food value chains
Approaches for social sustainability

- **Inclusive Business Models (IBMs):** integrating small farmers or other vulnerable groups into markets or value chains.

- Entails both economic (**business**) and social objectives (**inclusive**).

- Different actors linking farmers to markets: cooperatives, traders, agrifood processors, retailers, large buyers, public sector through institutional procurement business models.
Sustainable value chains and the ‘missing’ middle

Addressing the ‘hidden’ middle rationale:

- Domestic market consumes 90% food Africa
- Urban market
  - Food 50%
  - Market 60%
  - Population 40%
  - (ESA 30% WST 40%)
- Rural-urban volume flow growing fast: 800% in Africa 30 years

Many opportunities provided by middle SMEs to rural areas:

- Significant investments in farming and agricultural inputs;
- Offering a variety of familiar, affordable and nutritional food stuffs locally;
- Offering jobs to young people;
- Creating demand for investment in modern utilities such as energy, water, infrastructure, telecommunications and waste disposal in rural areas;
Approaches for sustainability – food losses and waste

- Measurement and action to meet the target on reducing food loss and food waste - Expert consultation on SDG 12.3

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

EXPERT CONSULTATION ON SDG 12.3

MEASUREMENT AND ACTION TO MEET THE TARGET ON REDUCING FOOD LOSS AND FOOD WASTE

28-29 September 2017 | Mexico Room
Measurement and action to meet the target on reducing food loss and food waste

- **Methodology:**
  - **Stakeholder sensitization** and KAP surveys
  - **Market** surveys
  - **Training** of trainers
  - **Survey and analysis of critical loss points** in the supply chains
  - **Pilot demonstration** of good practice, measurement and assessment
  - Documentation and **analysis of results**
  - **Training of stakeholders**
  - **Dissemination of results**
  - **Policy** recommendations for Governments
Examples from the field

➢ The Roots and Tubers project in 7 countries across Africa:

➢ Focuses on improving business transactions between producer groups and agribusinesses such as processors and traders.
Examples from the field

In Rwanda the focus is on developing inclusive business models throughout the potato value chain:

• Appraise business models between buyers and suppliers;

• Identify the farmer organizations, SMEs and intermediary traders supplying the buyers;

• Determine the feasibility for investment in storage capacity of ware and seed potatoes;

• Develop contract farming operations for cooperatives, financial service providers and traders;

• Agribusiness management training for farmer organizations and SMEs.
Environmental sustainability

- Firms linking agriculture and industry also contribute significantly to the sector’s Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) emanating from fuel fired boilers, heating systems, electric motors, refrigerating equipment, air compressors etc.

- Applying **sustainability** lens to food value chains means also that small farmers and food enterprises can become more **competitive** and **innovative** as they identify ways to **manage inputs and resources more efficiently**.

- Lack of ownership of the sustainability concept and tools;
- Misconception by the private sector that sustainability and environmental protection mostly involve trade-offs;
Creating a unified vision for sustainability

- **Prioritizing public investment** support in sustainable packaging technologies;
- Promoting a **unified sustainability vision** and strategy;
- Developing policies that specifically **target the small food companies** and that prioritize convergence between sustainability and competitiveness;
- **Establishing dialogue** platforms between research institutes, farmer and processors for sustainable **support innovation and sustainability** seed systems;
- Moving initiatives that beyond dialogue on productivity.
Thank you!