

Achieving SDG2

Two initiatives to support the development of national transformation pathways

Innovative ideas and promising pilot projects are needed to sustain the momentum created by the new sustainable development agenda, particularly in the field of agriculture and food systems, which is still considerably left behind in spite of its fundamental importance for the world's development. This side event has showcased two promising initiatives to support the development of pathways in line with the 2030 agenda: the [Agricultural Transformation Pathways Initiative](#) and the [Changing Course in Global Agriculture Project](#).

The two presentations were first introduced by **David Nabarro**, Special Adviser on 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, who called for a deep transformation of agricultural and food systems and underlined that national pathways could end hunger and malnutrition and contribute to ending rural poverty, to tackling climate change and to the sustainable management of natural resources.

"The SDG2 serves an entry point to the full tapestry of the 17 SDGs, generating multiple synergies"

Mayacine Camara, Coordinator at the Directorate-General for Economic and Policy Planning at the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning of Senegal, then mentioned the challenges Senegal is facing in achieving SDG2, including hunger, climate change, and the current trade system. He said in order to address such challenges, countries needed targeted investments and consistent agricultural policies, such as the "Plan Senegal Emergent".

Deborah Fulton, Secretary of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), then shared views on how the CFS could support the development of national pathways, by bringing everyone together and building a common understanding.

"Policy convergence is needed if we are to achieve a global policy shift"

The [Agricultural Transformation Pathways Initiative](#) ([slides available online](#)) was then presented by **Marie-Helene Schwoob**, research fellow at Iddri – the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations. Marie-Helene Schwoob depicted the approach and methodology of the initiative, which supported the development and implementation of national transformation pathways in three pilot countries: Uruguay, China and the United Kingdom. She illustrated the practical steps of this methodology, based on participatory backcasting, with the case study of Uruguay.

The [Changing Course in Global Agriculture Project](#) ([slides available online](#)) was then presented by **Hans Herren**, the president of Millennium Institute and Biovision. Hans Herren showcased the main pillars (integrated and cross-sectoral approach, foresight analysis, participatory process and capacity-building) and the current results of the project, which was conducted with three countries: Kenya, Senegal and Ethiopia.

The two initiatives emphasized the need for long term agricultural development roadmaps with targets setting a clear and shared vision of the future, including environmental and social considerations. They also emphasized that such roadmaps needed to be co-constructed with all relevant stakeholders of the food system who hold in their hands the levers for change, including governments, producers, researchers, civil society and international organizations

The presentations were followed by a debate with the audience, moderated by Zachary Bleicher, IFAD, and highlighted again the need for roadmaps to be co-constructed by multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Links to other summaries of the event:

<http://unsdsn.org/news/2016/06/19/hlpf-side-event-on-how-to-achieve-sdg2/>

<http://sd.iisd.org/news/sdg-2-event-highlights-need-for-deep-transformation/>