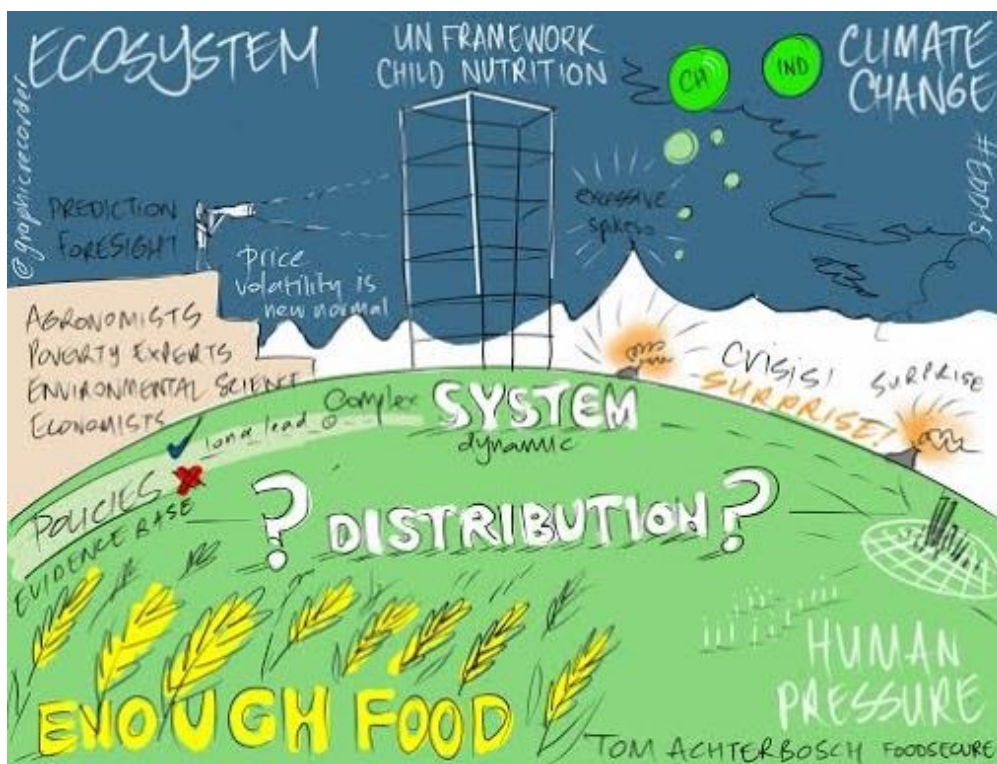


FOODSECURE: The Future of Global Food and Nutrition Security

**Brainstorming Lab
at
European Development Days 2015**



REPORT

Venue: Tour & Taxis

Avenue du Port - Haveniaan 86c
B-1000 Brussels

Lab room: B2

Thursday, 4th June 2015, from 16:00 – 17:15 hrs

Date of this report: 16/06/2015

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I. Welcome and overview of the workshop: visions of the youth for achieving global food & nutrition security (FNS) - (16.00-16.05h)

Introductory remarks by Jill Adams (Prospex) on the FOODSECURE Project and presentation of the brainstorming interactive lab at the European Development Days 2015.

The Foodsecure Project

- Looks at **FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY** up to 2050
- In depth data gathering, modelling & analysis
- Policy analysis
- Participatory multi-stakeholder processes
- Future scenarios, visions, policy effects, strategies, advice & recommendations

Objectives for this session

- Integrate views from stakeholders on food security.
- Develop participatory scenarios and drivers
- Identify visions and options for action with stakeholders.
- Identify key choices and develop future food security pathways by means of roadmapping

Workshop Agenda

May 19th, 16:00 – 17:15

- Welcome & Introductions (5')
- The Foodsecure project in a nutshell (10')
- A vision for food & nutrition security (45')
 - Brainstorming individually & in table groups
 - Clustering & bringing it all together in plenary
- Other FNS visions (15')
 - Jules Seitz (DG AGRI)
 - Jean-Pierre Halkin (DG DEVCO)
 - Thom Achterbosch (Foodsecure)
- Close

Individually

Please DESCRIBE the

FUTURE STATE for

Food and Nutrition Security

YOU would LIKE to see

in **2050**

In the **GROUP** at your **TABLE**

CLUSTER similar **POST-ITs** on the **FLIP** and

create a **NAME** for each **CLUSTER**

II. The FOODSECURE Project - (16.05-16.15h)

Presentation of the FOODSECURE Project by Thom Achterbosch
(LEI-WUR, Co-leader of the FOODSECURE Project)



eudevdays.eu

#FOODSECURE

Interdisciplinary Research Project to Explore the Future of Global Food and Nutrition Security

Brainstorming lab and Stand

at the European Development Days 2015, 3-4 June 2015

Thom Achterbosch



On twitter: @FoodSecureEU



This project is funded by the European Union under the 7th Research Framework Programme (Theme SDG) Grant agreement no. 290683



The 2050 world food equation is risk prone

Supply

Land (degradation)
Water (scarcity)
Productivity & technology
Labor & farm structure
Climate change

=

Demand

Population (growth)
Income (growth, urbanization)
Poverty and inequality
Consumer behavior, waste
Bio-energy

Trade and Markets

Supermarkets
Protection
Financial markets
Food stocks

J.von Braun, ZEF 2013

FOODSECURE objectives

The objective is to design effective and sustainable strategies for **assessing** and **addressing** the challenges of food and nutrition security.



FOODSECURE provides a set of **analytical instruments** to experiment, analyse, and coordinate the effects of **short and long term policies** related to achieving food and nutrition security (FNS).

Key features

- 19 research institutes
- Multidisciplinary
- Stakeholder panels
- EC grant € 8 mln, duration 2012-17
- 60 journal/working papers, more coming
- User-friendly access to findings, data

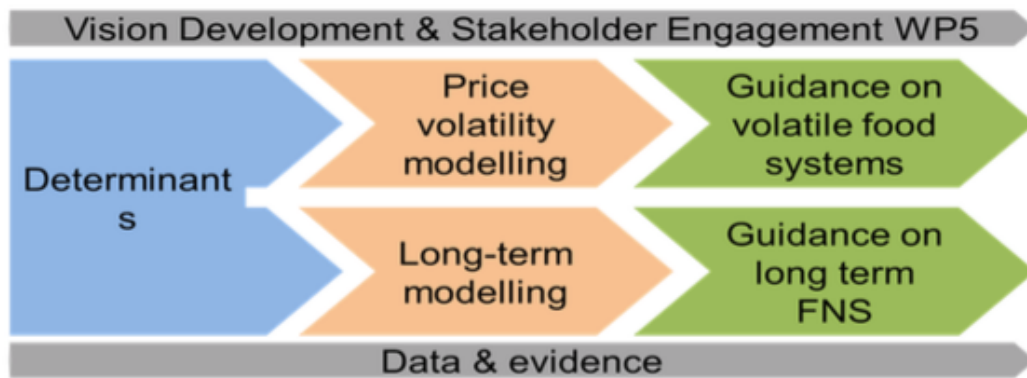


FOODSECURE research components

Determinants: understanding the causes of hunger

Future: tools for crisis surveillance and foresight

Guidance: on a global / EC policy framework to support FNS



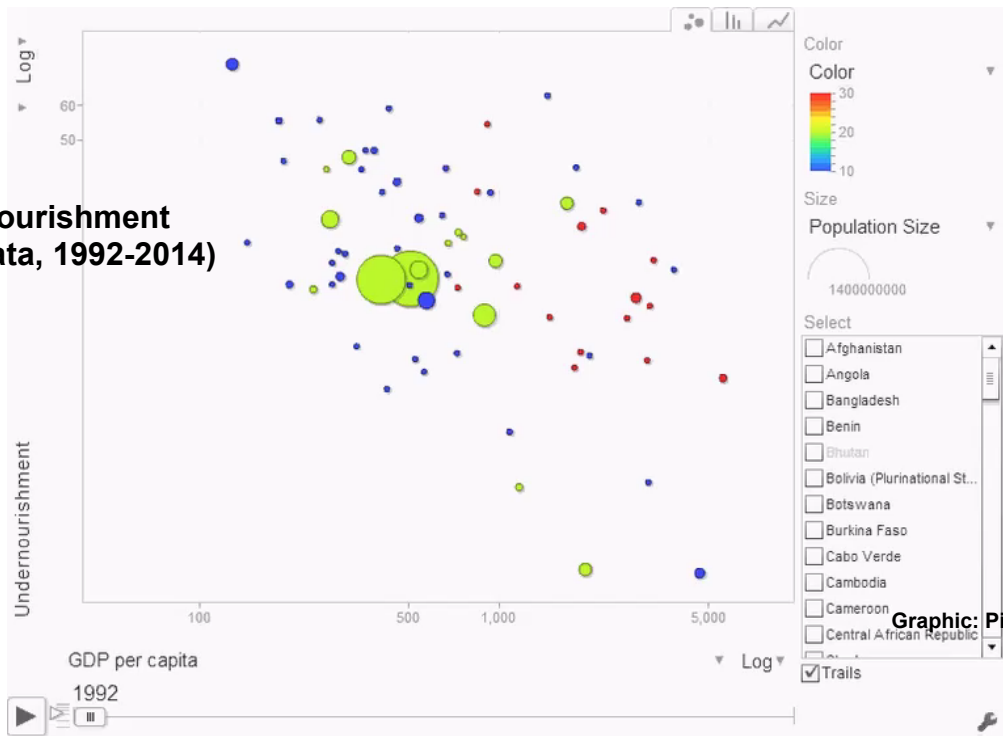
The framework on “basic” and “immediate” causes by The Lancet (2008) is good, but attention in research and policy action focuses too little on “basic” causes

Policy and Market failure Issues to be addressed

J. von Braun 2015

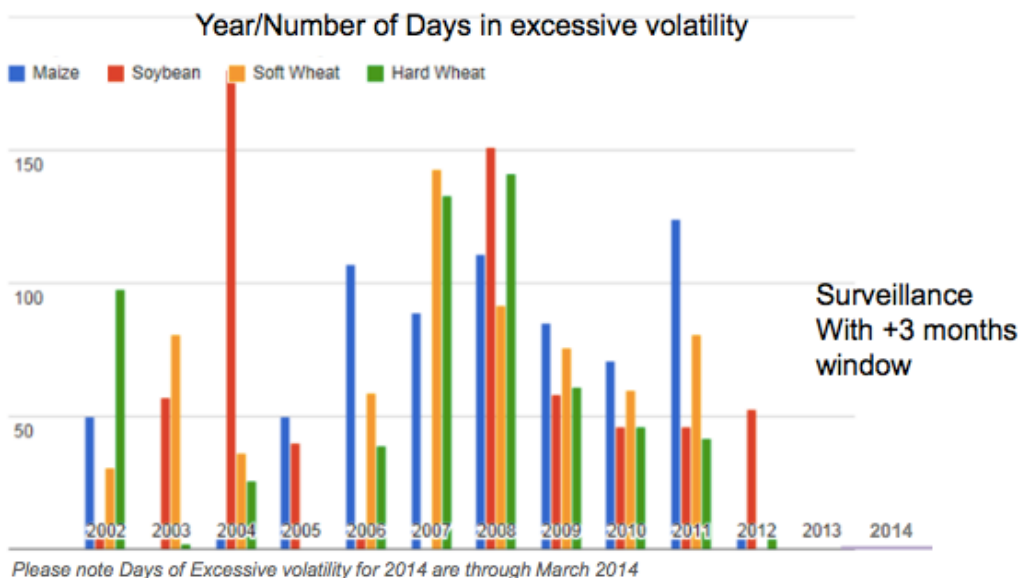
Income growth drives evolution of undernourishment but is neither enough nor strictly necessary Other factors: Inclusiveness, basic services, policy, political system, etc.

Undernourishment (FAO data, 1992-2014)

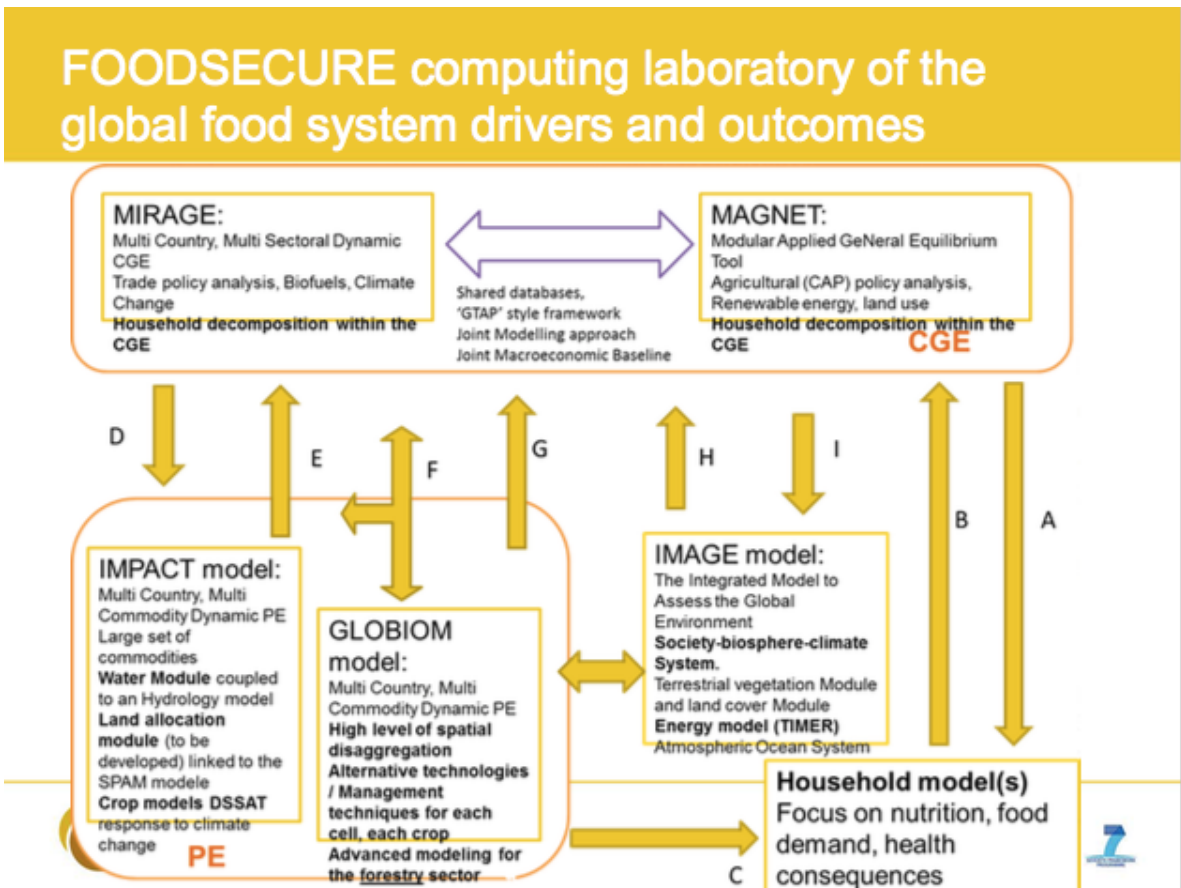
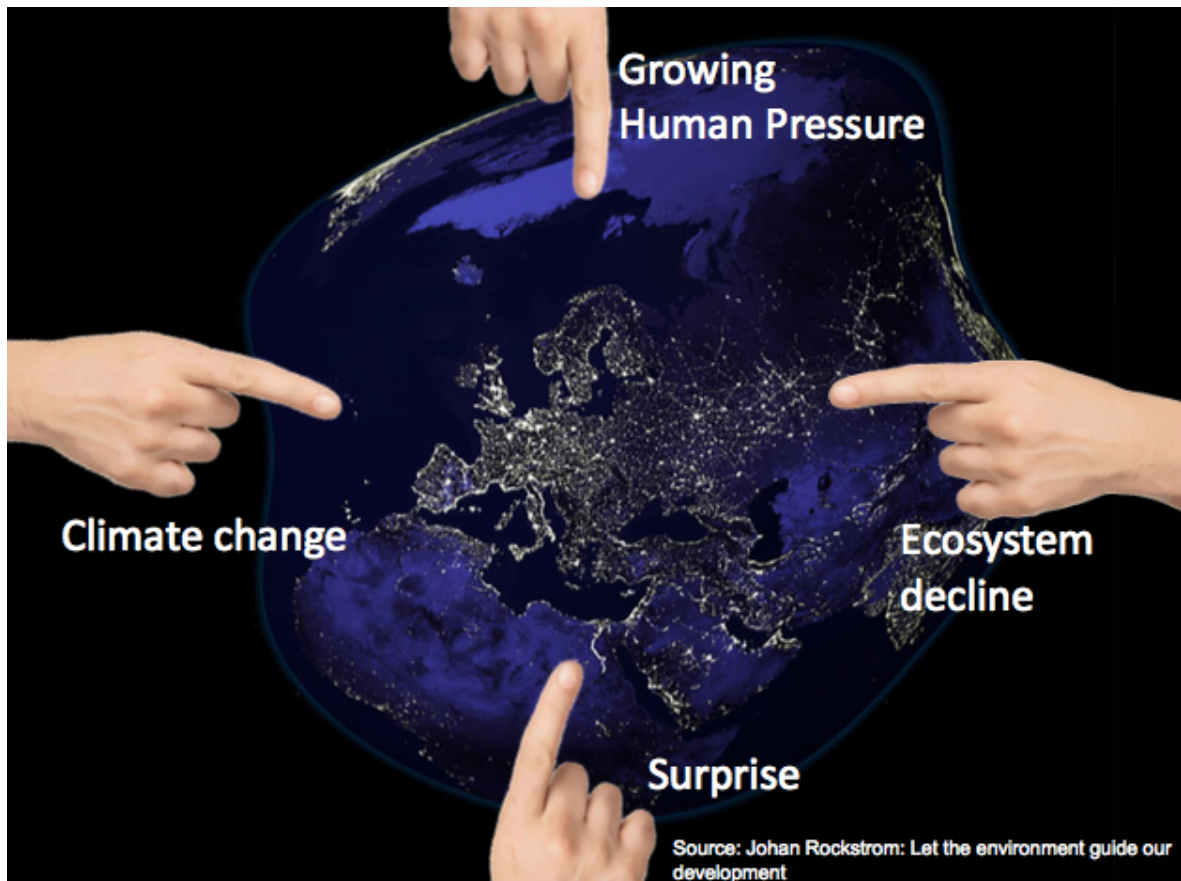


Graphic: Pieters 2015

Excessive food price volatility matters more than “normal” fluctuations; Tools available for predicting excessive volatility



Source: Martins-Filho, Torero, and Yao 2010. See details at <http://www.foodsecurityportal.org/soft-wheat-price-volatility-alert-mechanism>.

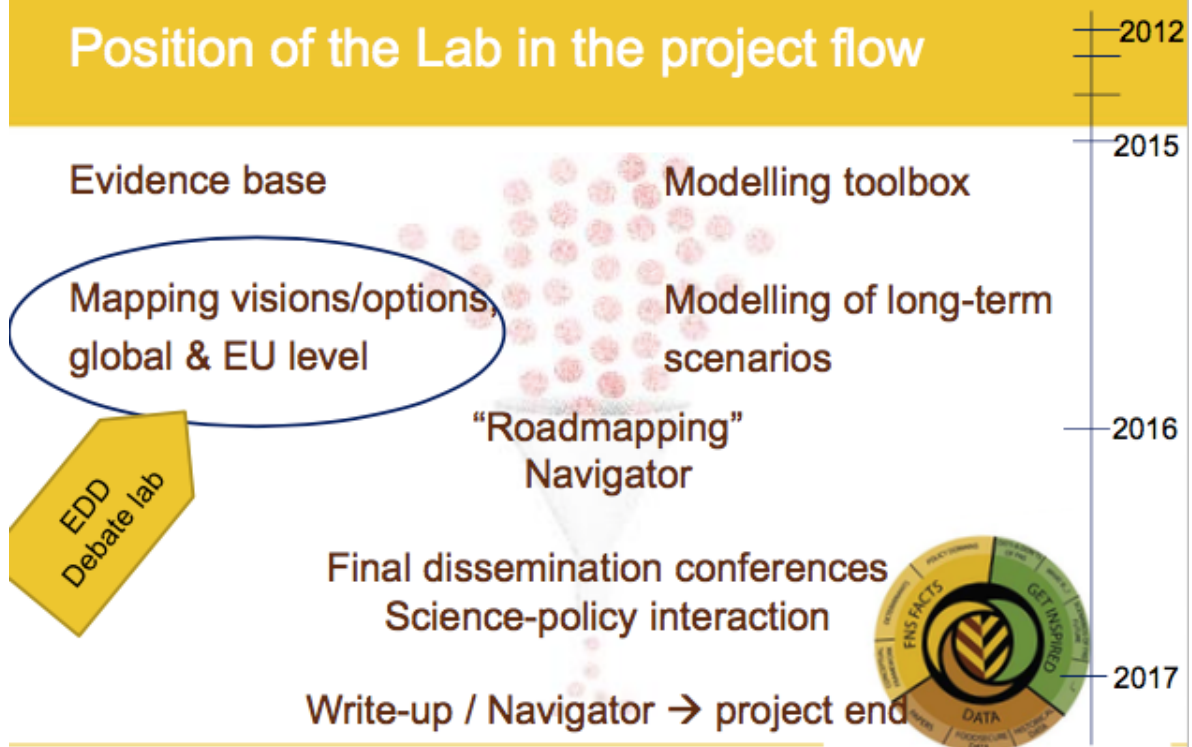


Underpinning a sensible policy framework, short term and long term strategies

- The purpose is to support EU policy makers and other stakeholders in the design of FNS strategies.
 - Agriculture
 - Fisheries
 - Trade
 - Agricultural R&D
 - Climate change
 - Environment
 - Development aid



Position of the Lab in the project flow



III. Vision for Food and Nutrition Security: identifying desired future states - Interactive session presentation - (16.15 - 17.00)

Question:

Please describe the future state for Food and Nutrition Security you would like to see in 2050

Instructions for the workshop were given to the participants by Jill Adams, with the help of slides on the screen. Participants were divided into four tables and the students attending the workshop were also equally distributed in all four tables.

A. Individual reflection (3-5 min.)

Participants were asked to write down individual reflections and visions for food and nutrition security (FNS) in 2050 on yellow post-its. Bright green post-its were used to identify possible actions, pathways and policies to achieve the desired FNS visions.

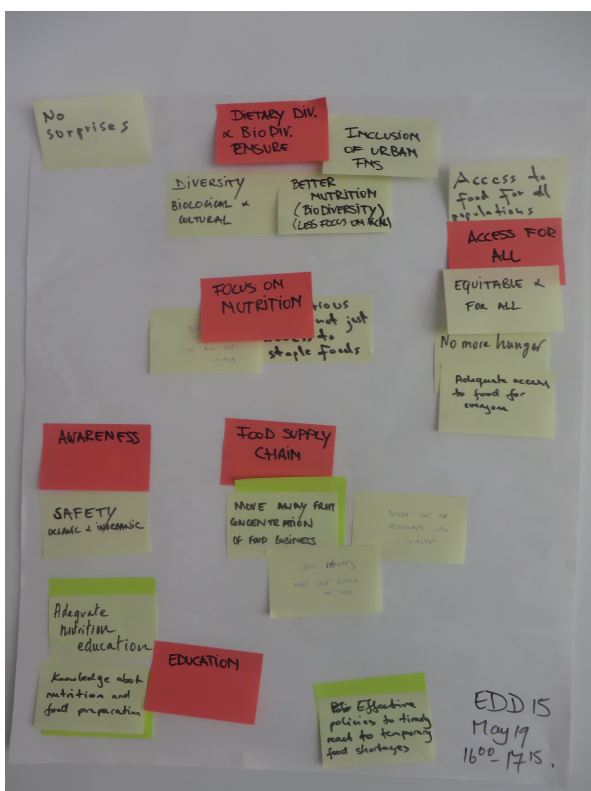
B. Group discussion (20 min.)

Participants were asked to explain to the others in the group their visions and actions post-its, while sticking them on the table's flip chart. Each table actively discussed the proposed vision and action post-its, re-grouping them in clusters. Each table was given a different set of coloured post-its to identify the clusters.

C. Presentation of clusters by groups representatives (15 min.)

Each table chose a representative to give a short presentation on the clusters to all the participants.

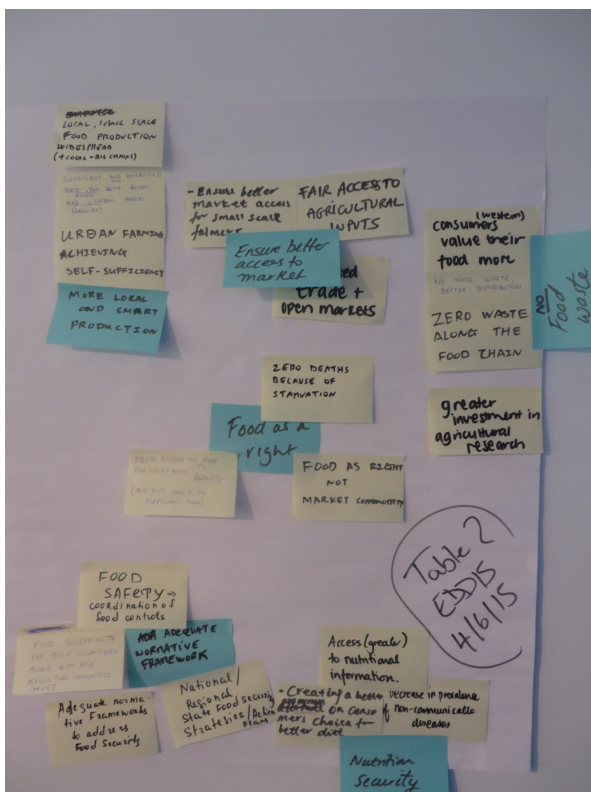
Table 1



CLUSTERS:

- **Ensure dietary diversity and biodiversity:** inclusion of urban FNS, biological and cultural diversity, better nutrition (biodiversity - less focus on Kcal).
- **Focus on nutrition:** better nutrition in all the world, nutritious food not just access to staple food.
- **Access for all:** equitable for all, no more hunger, adequate access to food for everyone, access to food for all populations.
- **Food supply chain:** move away from concentration of food business, less imports and more self supply of food, better use of resources and less waste.
- **Awareness:** safety-organic and inorganic.
- **Education:** adequate nutrition education, knowledge about nutrition and food preparation.
- no surprises.

Table 2



CLUSTERS:

- **More local and smart production:** local small scale food production - widespread (more local, less big chains), sufficient and diversified food access for both rural and growing urban areas, urban farming achieving self-sufficiency, more local and smart production.
- **Ensure better access to market:** ensure better market access for small scale farming, fair access to agricultural inputs, increased trade and open markets.
- **Food as a right:** zero deaths because of starvation, food as right - not as market commodity, equal access to quality food to everybody (not only to sufficient food).
- **No food waste:** western consumers value their food more, no food waste and better distribution, zero waste along the food chain.
- **Adequate normative framework:** food safety and coordination of food controls, food sovereignty for most countries along with fair agriculture commodity market, adequate normative frameworks to address food security, national/regional/state food security strategies-action plans.
- **Nutrition security:** greater access to nutritional information, decrease in prevalence of non communicable diseases, creating a better awareness on consumers choice for a better diet.
- Greater investment in agricultural research.

Table 3



CLUSTERS:

- **Access:** all children below 5 are well nourished (calories, micronutrients), everyone in the household can have enough nutritious food, access to food for all, food & nutrition security for all, no fear that there will not be enough to eat, world free form hunger and malnutrition, access to food is a right everywhere in the world, equal opportunities (access to land) - access to food cheap and everywhere.
- **Food quality & safety:** food safety 100% assured, world food system is secure, sustainable and just, food & nutrition production with less inputs - 100% sustainable, using sustainable production technology, corporate social responsibility in food industry (food quality).
- **Drivers:** identify the value of drivers for innovation to improve nutrition security,

evidence to link agriculture with nutrition security: what is relevant.

- **Involvement:** access to education and information, including information on market, efficient infrastructure to facilitate distribution, attract youth into agriculture, larger involvement of other stakeholders (farmers, researchers) - food security platform.
- **Food waste:** food loss/waste reduction to 99%.
- people eat food to nourish not just to fill empty bellies.
- Decent income for food producers at bottom of pyramid.

Table 4



CLUSTERS:

- **Good governance:** transparent/predictable/agreed upon, global accountability, sustainable and well governed i.t.o. social justice.
- **Nutrition:** quality, reduced malnutrition, nutritious food for everybody, no micronutrient deficiencies due to malnutrition.
- **Sustainable production:** driven by local producers, sustainable food production, minimise food loss, clean water for all, sustainable.
- **Social justice:** equality, enough food for everyone.
- **Sustainable consumption:** limit food waste, less meat consumption.
- **Balanced markets:** state support and aid to producers in developing countries ended, more diversified food systems.
- no land degradation.
- agriculture with less fossil inputs.

D. Plenary discussion (5 min.)

While presenting the clusters and their reasoning, each groups' representative also pointed out and discussed commonalities and differences with the other groups.

Table 1

Table 1 noticed lots of similarities among all the clusters of all four tables.

The main focus during the debate was the vision "access for all", also with a view to the urban world. Most people in the group wished for better information and education on what is nutritious food and more awareness on the subject. As food security alone is not enough,

increased research on food and food production is needed to guarantee also food safety. Another cluster supported the hope for changes in the supply chain in order to achieve better resources management and less waste. Less imports and less industrial concentration should also leave space for a more equitable division of resources. One last cluster covered the necessity to protect biodiversity and diet diversity.

Table 2

Table 2 found many similarities with table 3. The major issue debated was market access from two linked perspectives: agricultural production (i.e. availability of seeds and materials) and market penetration (at local, regional and global level). Debating the issue, many challenges emerged, in terms of technical regulations, standard and safety.

The table focused as well the discussion on food waste from a consumers perspective and on possible strategies to avoid it. They identified as a cluster the necessity of more regulations, national strategies and action plans aiming at creating a normative food security framework. They made as well a distinction between food safety and food security, calling for more coordination on food controls.

Another proposed cluster dealt with nutrition security, meaning more information on it available to consumers. Finally, it emerged the concept of “food as a right”, and the right of access to food as linked with the eradication of diseases.

Table 3

Table 3 noticed many overlaps between all the clusters and visions proposed. They remarked the positive presence at their table of people from different backgrounds. They divided the debate in visions and actions, especially focusing on the latter.

Regarding the visions, they all wished for a hunger free world by 2050, with guaranteed access to food for everyone; and where fear for hunger does not exist. The second cluster dealt with sustainability (a concept that came up already in other tables) and the rethinking of production methods, with less imports and a more sustainable and just market.

The focus was not only put on security but safety as well; micronutrients were judged important but control and absence of toxins were important aspect for discussion. Another vision, related to social justice, touched upon increased income for farmers.

The group also identified three main areas for action. The first looked at the key drivers for innovation (how to produce more nutritious and quality food), as well as more information on nutritious food. The second dealt with waste reduction and the third with stakeholders involvement (creation of a food security platform) and information access (education on market access, information on markets and opportunities). It identified “access to market” as a right (social justice cluster). A very important aspect considered was the involvement of youth in agriculture, especially in view of the trend of population ageing.

Table 4

The discussion focused on the 6 presented clusters. These were ordered in a logical sequence starting with food production, continuing with trade and consumption, without forgetting the

overarching governance issue, the sustainability issue, social justice and the need for balanced markets.

In the debate on sustainable food production, some areas were especially identified, such as minimising food losses, access to clean water for all and less fossil inputs in agriculture.

Moving towards the consumption side, it was discussed the role of trade, both in goods and food and balance of markets. Regarding social justice, the discussion dealt with equality in terms of market access. The debate on consumption focused on minimising food losses in the future, as well as having less meat consumed. The governance issue was approached in terms of transparency and social justice; global accountability from multinational corporations to governments at national level, and at the global level, for good governance on pesticides, etc.

With regard to nutrition, the main themes were child malnutrition, eradication of malnutrition and micronutrients deficiencies. The nutrition issue has been referred to in terms of both “not enough food” and of obesity and access to food in the western world. Overall, sustainable production has been the overarching theme.

IV. Other visions for Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) - (17.00 -17.15)

A. Jules Seitz, *International Relations officer*, DG AGRI - (17.00 -17.05h)

Mr Seitz, International Relations Officer, DG AGRI, intervened in the workshop as a replacement for Mr Haniotis (also from DG AGRI).

Mr Seitz introduced himself and explained his role at the European Commission in regard to development issues. He also remarked that his intervention did not pretend to be as comprehensive as the participants have been.

He mentioned that the previous day, while participating in the panel “Feeding the Planet Together”, at the question of what was most important among “increasing productivity, addressing climate change, food waste and social justice”, people voted for climate change. He explained how he believes that all four challenges need to be addressed at the same time, as this challenge to create a sustainable food system is a shared challenge, as the participants already pointed out during the workshop. Therefore, from a EU perspective, it is essential to focus the international debate on how to evolve towards a more sustainable system.

Mr Seitz reminded the audience of the three EU objectives for the agricultural sector in 2050: producing more food, raise income of farmers and better management of natural resources. He explained how usually the debate on food security is divided into four main pillars: access, availability, quality and stability. However, in his opinion the four pillars have not been sufficiently addressed as one single entity. He also stated the need to focus the debate more on the governance side, as it is the latter which oughts to bring the much hoped food security. Mr Seitz remarked how essential it is to empower citizens in a participatory way. He stated that today’s workshop is an example of good practice.

Mr Seitz stated that from a DG AGRI perspective, the only possible future for agriculture is a sustainable agriculture, with research and innovation as key drivers. He explained how the recent

CAP reform has indeed moved towards more integration of research and innovation. An example are the new European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs), based on the simple idea of bringing researchers to respond to farmers' needs and vice versa.

Mr Seitz explained that this concept has already been adopted in other parts of the world, for example by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). He also mentioned the experience of Paulo Freire' campaigns to teach reading and writing skills in Brazil, thanks to a similar participatory and empowering approach. Mr Seitz also restated that the H2020 new research agenda puts great focus on innovation and research, as well as, on rural development programs.

Mr Seitz argued that our objective should be, not only to have more knowledge, but also a better ability to share it with our partners, strengthening research and innovation and bridging the communication gap between farmers and researchers, in order to support the idea of a knowledge-based agriculture.

Addressing the state of the current agri-technological revolution, Mr Seitz mentioned the Copernicus satellite programme as a tool for a major shift in terms of data collection and analysis, challenging us to improve our agricultural and ecological approach and pushing us to find new and better ways to share knowledge.

In regard to developing countries, Mr Seitz stated that they should take lead of their own development, fostering inter-regional trade and an enabling environment, while our role should be of support for their achievement of food sovereignty. He also explained that agriculture is obviously a key driver for development.

Mr Seitz concluded with a thought on the role of education (one of the cluster identified by the participants) and the importance of knowledge being integrated with other disciplines, as sociology (how to live together), anthropology (where we come from) and biology (how are we made) in order to find better and faster solutions.

B. Jean-Pierre Halkin, *Head of Unit, DG DEVCO* - (17.05 -17.10h)

Mr Halkin thanked for the invitation and explained how excited he was for this lab, which is a great opportunity to check if policies developed by the European Commission are truly responding to the key concerns of the stakeholders. He remarked that some top priority aspects of food security have been addressed very deeply in the workshop.

Mr Halkin explained how food security is not anymore a question of producing enough calories, but rather a question of averting humanitarian disaster; a question of economic growth and of social justice.

He stated that the fact that today one child out of four is suffering from chronic malnutrition, because the parents can't afford nutritious food, is a question of social justice which has finally being perceived as such, bringing the issue of food security and nutrition to another level of clarity for the EU.

Mr Halkin remarked that from the discussion emerged strongly the need to make sure that people have access to the right diet. While avoiding food waste and having the right quality of

food are indeed important, in the end, he stated, what really is extremely important is for people to have enough food to be sufficiently fed and not to suffer from micronutrient deficiency.

He then observed that the role of trade has not been addressed enough and not fully developed in the policies. Trade could be perceived as an opportunity, as a threat, or both at the same time, but it certainly is an issue that needs more reflection, especially to differentiate between what is good trade and bad trade.

Mr Halkin explained that he was expecting to see more reflection on the balance between food production and agricultural commodities. Our demand for agricultural commodities should be the subject of a more careful reflection, on ethic, moral and governance of the food system.

Mr Halkin considered the role of the rural world as a central question. In that regard he mentioned the intervention of Mr Seitz on the role of farmers. He explained that while farmers are expected to adapt to new challenges, such as less available resources, climate change, new threats, invasive species and so on, it is important to also question ourselves on how much we are prepared to pay in the future for food and agricultural commodities. Mr Halkin observed that agriculture has the potential to implement carbon sequestration and to promote mitigation to climate change, therefore it is vital to discuss what exactly we are expecting from the rural world and the role that we want to see it play in the future, not in opposition, but as a complementarity to the urban world.

Mr Halkin concluded by thanking the participants for the extremely interesting insights, which will be useful to the Commission and to his colleagues. He thanked again for the invitation and congratulated the participants. He acknowledged that this workshop was one of the two most interactive among the panels he participated in.

V. Thank you and final remarks (17.10 - 17.15h)

Thom Achterbosch

Mr Achterbosch thanked the guest speakers and the participants for the wonderful inputs. He observed that after this discussion on the visions, a discussion on the actions would be a natural continuation, as one of the groups also stated.

Mr Achterbosch summarised two important points emerged in the workshop: when the element of social justice is brought into the discussion on the right to food security, the debate expands considerably; secondly the role of governance and the involvement of all the stakeholders in the food chain are essential for an inclusive discussion.

For Mr Achterbosch we need to maintain a sense of commonality in our action planning, in order to face the hard choices that will have to be made in the future, in order to advance towards a more open and diverse food production.

He concluded reminding the participants this is the third FoodSecure workshop and informing them that the results will be soon presented on the official website of the project and via newsletter to the participants.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Table 1

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