



Fourth **African Union - European Union** Agriculture Ministerial Conference



CATALYZING THE SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE TRANSFORMATION OF FOOD SYSTEMS

Food Systems Assessments

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Context

- EU Green Deal/Farm to Fork
- 2019 EU/FAO/CIRAD “Food Systems at Risk”
- 2020 Development of method for food systems assessment and stakeholder consultations
- 2021-27 EU programming cycle: EU Delegations expressed interest in assessments to trigger strategic reflection on future of food systems
- Complementarity to national dialogue process for 2021 UN Food Systems Summit



What are the food system assessments' objectives?

- Develop shared **understanding and evidence** on key FS challenges and opportunities among public, private sector and civil society stakeholders
- Broadly identify **a vision, levers and next steps** to advance sustainable food system transformation
- Inform future policies and public and private investments, and related programming including **EU programming**



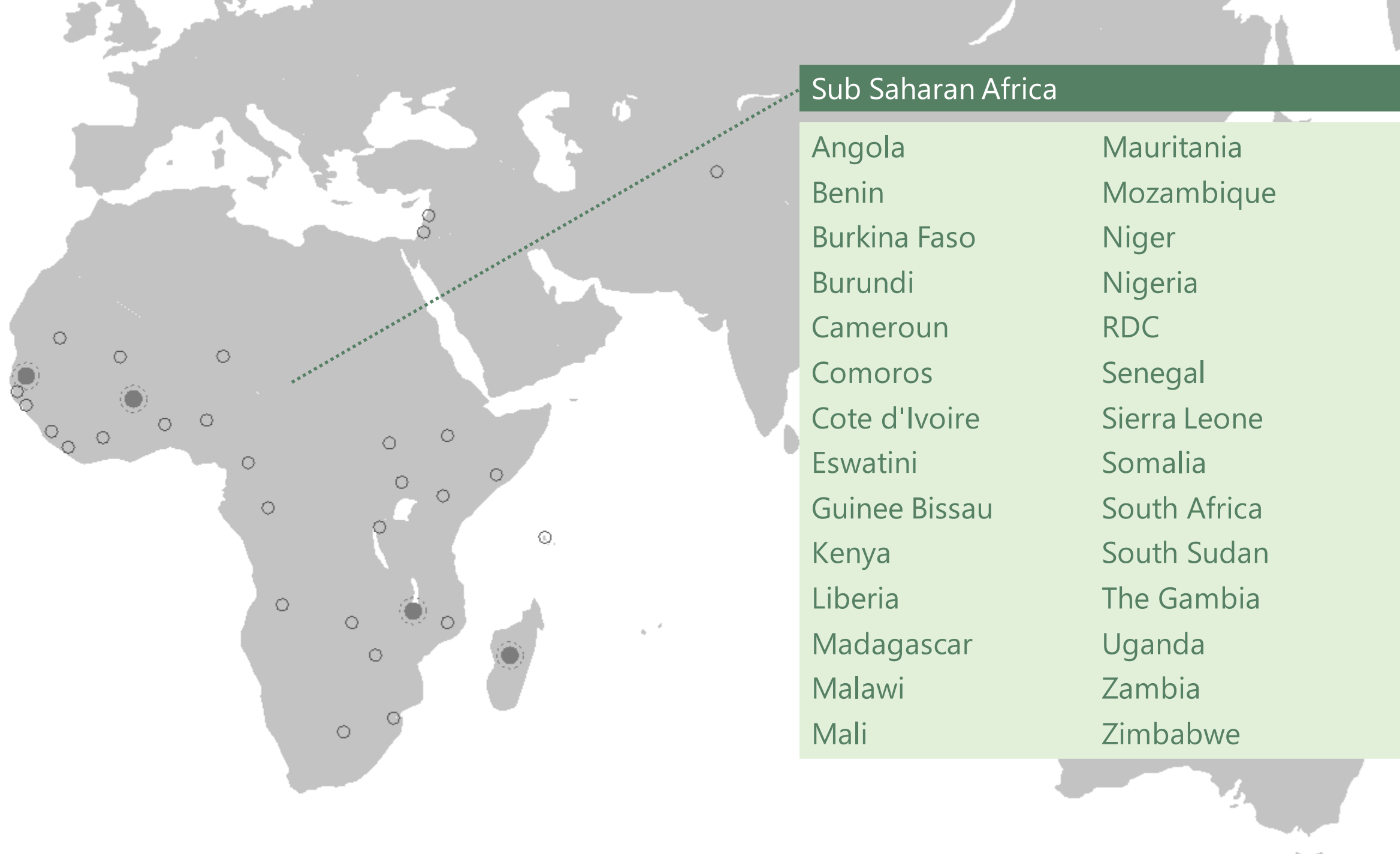
Principles of Engagement

- Leadership by Governments
- National expertise and institutions
- Partnership between Government, EU Delegations and FAO Representations
- Dialogue with public, private sector and civil society actors
- Building on existing evidence/knowledge
- Alignment and complementarity with continental frameworks (CAADP, RECs)



Scale, approach

- Implementing in 50 countries; largely virtual exercises; 2 month process
- In each country:
 - Team of four experts per country
 - Country team (National Government, EU, FAO) serves as advisory committee
- Global approach/methodology; local adaptation
- Consultative process; 3500 national stakeholders



Sub Saharan Africa

- Angola
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroun
- Comoros
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Eswatini
- Guinee Bissau
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mozambique
- Niger
- Nigeria
- RDC
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- The Gambia
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Food Systems approach

Complex food system dynamics, challenges, opportunities

- Demographic and urbanization trends (youth)
- Rising wealth but also inequalities
- Changing consumption patterns: huge opportunities but 1 in 5 global deaths are related to diet
- Resilience to changing climate and diverse shocks: 1/3 GHG
- Agrifood system is largest economic sector, source of value addition, jobs and livelihoods
- Global competition and global supply chains

Approach centered around four food systems' goals



FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Ensure food security, nutrition and health for all



ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY

Preserve ecosystems and natural resources ; limit impact on climate change

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

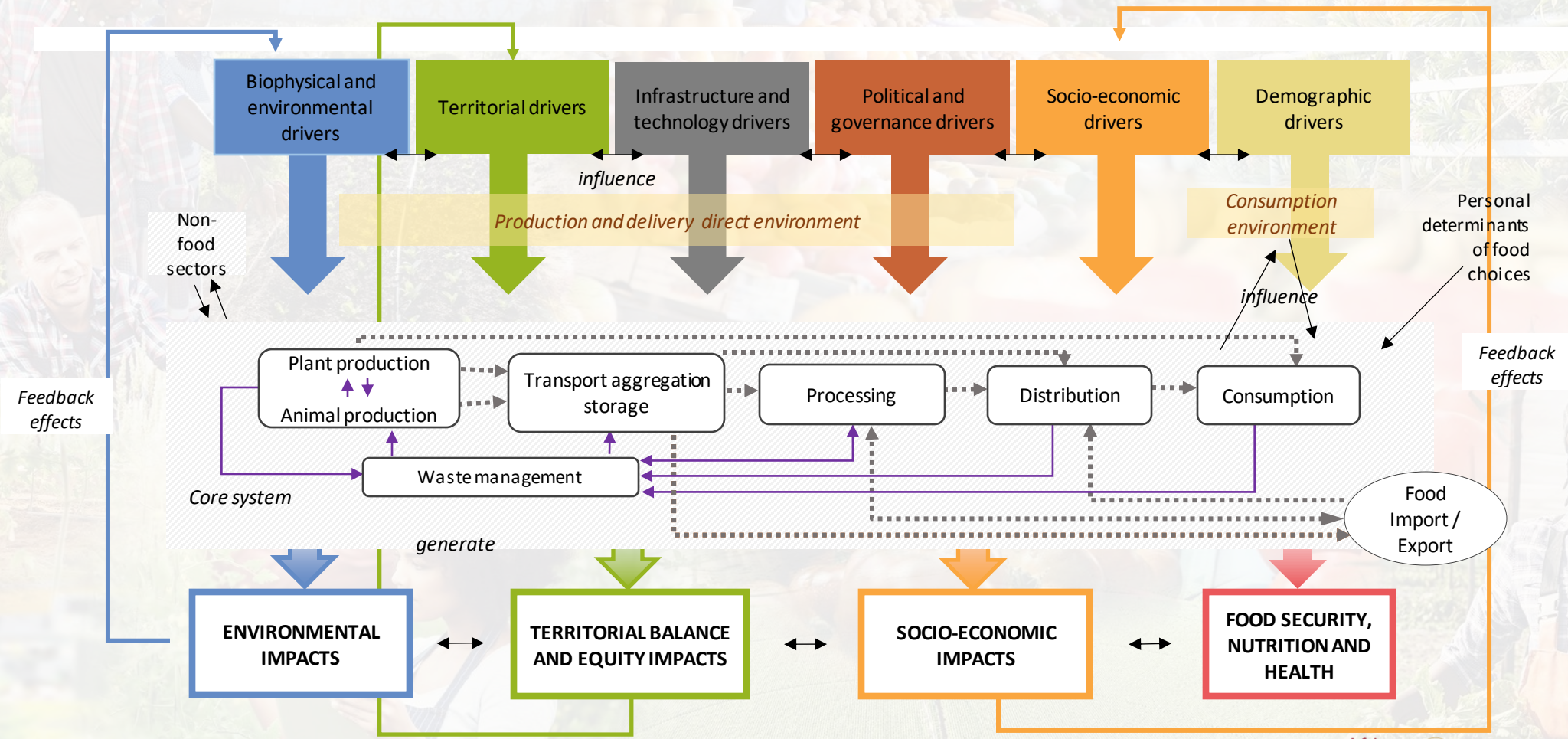
Ensure decent livelihood and jobs ; generate inclusive wealth

TERRITORIAL BALANCE AND EQUITY

Ensure equity and territorial balance



Conceptual framework of a food system



The assessment process in 5 steps

1. Launching the Process Set up of country team + Roadmap and tasks to prepare evidence-informed dialogue

2. Framing the issues Evidence + initial analytical observations + Initiating conversations- Identify 4-5 Key Sustainability Questions

3. Analyse available data & documents Evidence and insights to develop narratives around the key sustainability questions

4. Consultations & reach common understanding. Synthesis workshop : discuss and refine intermediary results ; sensitization of actors, shared view of key issues, identify potential leverage points for interventions

5. Summarize & prepare policy brief A policy brief + a working document



Beneficial, reciprocal collaboration with 2021 UNFSS national dialogues

- Active partnership with Governments
- Briefing convenors, Ministers and UN Country Teams
- Convenors/advisors are members of our country teams; Assessment experts are members of national dialogue task forces
- Learning from and informing sub-national, national and regional dialogues
- Linking assessment results to action tracks
- Joint dialogues

Emerging strategic food system sustainability issues

Burkina Faso: How can BF improve governance, institutions and resilience (irrigation) to diversify food systems (horticulture, dairy) to drive inclusive growth (jobs, livelihoods) and improve nutritional outcomes?

Madagascar: Effective decentralization to improve governance, roads, electrical grid and security underpins improved food system performance (productivity, smallholder access, competitive markets)

Colombia: How can Colombia leverage family, peasant and community agriculture with their proven capacity to supply local food chains in times of crisis (COVID-19) to diversify exports of quality foodstuffs?

Bhutan: How can Bhutan overcome a low-yielding/high-cost production landscape to increase volume and productivity to feed a growing and wealthier population while respecting its organic and environmental aspirations?

Emerging food systems policy and institutional architecture

- Establishment of national/sub-national food systems plans: Nigeria
- Sub-regional initiatives: ECOWAS/CILSS/CORAF: FS Resilience
- Continental policies: Africa Continental Free Trade Area
- Multi-sector coordination – South Africa, Burundi, Senegal
- Municipal/National-level coordination – Kenya
- Strong civil society engagement – Madagascar, Nigeria
- Building on strong scientific base:
 - Centre of Excellence: Univ. of Western Cape, South Africa
 - Economic Policy Research Centre: Uganda



What are the outputs?

Pre-Summit (July 2021)

- Early Insights briefs – select number of countries
- Intermediate synthesis brief
- Website

Summit (September 2021)

- Food systems brief (40-50 countries)
- Global synthesis report and brief

Other technical reports and briefs (TBD)





Future perspectives

- **Assessment results:** foundation for future planning of policy, investment and capacity development interventions for sustainable and inclusive transformation of food systems.
- Build on existing **CAADP Investment Plans**
- Strengthen **diverse public sector investments** (e.g. health, education, transport, energy, environment)
- Prioritize and mobilize public and private investment in **food system infrastructure** (market, road, cold chain, storage, food safety, R&D, education, regional trade)



Future perspectives

- A future food systems' **policy and investment agenda** will need to continue to strengthen the institutional architecture.
- Prioritize investment to **build back better** after COVID-19 (e.g., capacity development of producer/professional organizations)
- Food system **actors' identification of priority actions** (e.g., producers, professional organizations)
- EU and FAO reaffirm **commitment to broad partnership with National Governments, AU, AUDA-NEPAD and RECs** in support of sustainable and inclusive transformation of food systems.



Thank you.

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