



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# Enhancing the evaluability of Sustainable Development Goal 2: “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”

International technical seminar  
17-18 November 2015  
Rome, Italy



## AGENDA





Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Investing in rural people



World Food  
Programme

## **Enhancing the evaluability of Sustainable Development Goal 2: “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”**

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### **Background**

One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by Member States to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and converge with the post-2015 Development Agenda. The SDGs should be coherent with and integrated into the United Nations Development Agenda beyond 2015. The Secretary-General, in his report “A life of dignity for all” (A/68/202), observed that “Strong monitoring and accountability will be crucial for the implementation of the post-2015 Development Agenda.”

The SDGs were adopted during the high-level plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015. The technical discussion on how to evaluate the achievement of the various SDGs can now start.

Within the framework of a 2013 joint statement of collaboration, and as part of the International Year of Evaluation 2015, the evaluation offices of the Rome-based agencies, comprised of the CGIAR (formerly

known as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP), are jointly organizing an international technical seminar to discuss “Enhancing the evaluability of Sustainable Development Goal 2”.



The focus of SDG2 is in line with the mandates of the Rome-based agencies, which cover a wide range of issues associated with SDG2, in contexts ranging from humanitarian crisis to development.

The seminar will provide an opportunity to critically reflect on the experiences from previous attempts made to monitor and evaluate progress towards the MDGs. It will identify the pitfalls that should be avoided as well as the foundations that have been laid with regards to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) at national and global levels, which may enable the SDGs to be effectively evaluated in the future. The seminar’s approach will be based on an understanding that any future evaluation of the SDGs will require data originating from sound monitoring of SDGs, as is proposed by the United Nations initiative “Sustainable Development Solutions Network”.

Evaluations of the SDGs will complement the monitoring by analysing factors that enable, impede or prevent progress on SDGs. The seminar will therefore focus on the conditions that will make progress towards SDG2 evaluable and the evaluations themselves useful and effective.



For a forward-looking perspective, the seminar will also reflect on the changing context and emerging challenges for evaluation in the SDG era. Issues to consider include: the increasing fragmentation of aid, the importance of non-aid links and the emergence of new actors and partnerships in development and humanitarian aid that require a wide range of disciplinary approaches to evaluation; and greater attention to equitable and sustainable development outcomes and the need to integrate values into evaluation for a better understanding of the poverty dimension, beyond material deprivation, as well as new ways to measure qualitative growth.

The seminar will focus on the evaluability of SDG2. Evaluability assessments were introduced in the 1980s as a procedure and method to determine whether programmes were ready for evaluation. Since then, evaluability studies have been used as a preparatory step in evaluation design to: define the exact purpose and subject of the evaluation; review the availability of evidence; and decide whether complex programmes or issues could be evaluated at all. Evaluability assessments explore the conditions, options and limitations to conduct future evaluations, which increases the probability that evaluations will be feasible, relevant and useful. By focusing on evaluability, this seminar will inform participants about how SDG2 can and should ultimately be evaluated.

## Objectives

The overall objective of the seminar is to contribute to a shared understanding of how SDG2 could be evaluated and identify actions needed to enable evaluations of SDG2 through the United Nations system, other international organizations or countries themselves. Specific objectives of the seminar are to: (i) share lessons learned on the evaluability of the MDGs and other partnership initiatives of similar scale (for example the Paris Declaration); (ii) jointly review key challenges for evaluation in relation to the post-2015 development agenda in general and SDG2 in particular; and (iii) identify concrete steps for Rome-based agencies towards building evaluability of SDG2.

Enhancing the evaluability of Sustainable Development  
Goal 2: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved  
nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture"

International technical seminar

AGENDA

Day 1 - Tuesday 17 November 2015

Time	Session
8:00-9:00	Registration and welcome coffee
9:00-9:05	Welcome
9:05-9:30	Opening address by high-level representatives of the host agencies  ■ Mr <b>Daniel Gustafson</b> , Deputy Director General, FAO ■ Mr <b>Jim Harvey</b> , Chief of Staff of the Office of the Executive Director of WFP ■ Mr <b>Frank Rijsberman</b> , Chief Executive Officer, CGIAR ■ Mr <b>Kanayo F. Nwanze</b> , President of IFAD
9:30-10:30	"Establishing the context" - overview role of evaluation in the Sustainable Development Goals  <b>Keynote speakers:</b> ■ Ms <b>Sunita Narain</b> , Director General, Centre for Science and Environment ■ Mr <b>Jomo Kwame Sundaram</b> , Assistant Director-General, Coordinator for Economic and Social Development, FAO <b>Questions and answers session</b>
10:30-10:45	Welcome and agenda setting by Mr <b>Oscar A. Garcia</b> , Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD, on behalf of the directors of the evaluation offices of the Rome-based agencies  Comments by Mr <b>Marco Segone</b> , Chair of the United Nations Evaluation Group
10:45-11:15	Coffee break and photo

Note: Interpretation (English, French and Spanish) will be provided for the morning Plenary session of the first day (9:00-12:15).

11:15-12:15	<p>Setting the scene of the Thematic Group discussions and introduction by the Thematic Group Chairs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Relevance of “new metrics” for the evaluation of SDG2 – data revolution and innovative approaches for assessing human wellbeing</b></li> <li>2. <b>Partnerships and development actors – dealing with the increasing complexity of development processes</b></li> <li>3. <b>National monitoring and evaluation systems and data availability – building on the progress made and addressing existing (capacity) gaps</b></li> <li>4. <b>Demand for and use of evidence from evaluation – understanding the political economy of evidence and developing a joint evaluation agenda for SDG2</b></li> </ol>
12:15-13:30	Lunch break (self-serve, self-pay at the IFAD cafeteria)
13:30-15:30	Thematic Group parallel breakout sessions - moderated by the Thematic Group Chairs
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:30	Thematic Groups parallel breakout sessions - continued
17:30-19:00	Cocktail hosted by the evaluation offices of the Rome-based agencies. All participants are invited.

## Day 2 - Wednesday, 18 November 2015

Time	Session
8:30-9:00	Arrival and coffee
09.00-11:00	<p>Presentation of Thematic Group discussions - key issues and suggestions for follow up actions</p> <p>Questions and answers with the directors of the evaluation offices of the Rome-based agencies and Thematic Group Chairs</p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:45	<p>Next steps - Recommendations for follow up and action</p> <p>Chair: Mr <b>John Hoddinott</b>, H.E. Babcock Professor of Food and Nutrition Economics and Policy, Cornell University</p>
12:45-13:00	<p>Concluding remarks by Mr <b>Oscar A. Garcia</b>, Director, Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD on behalf of the directors of the evaluation offices of the Rome-based agencies</p>
13:00	Wrap-up and closure of the seminar

## Keynote speakers

The seminar will start with keynote speeches on broad issues defining the new context for evaluation in the post-2015 era, thus setting the stage for subsequent discussions on the evaluability of SDG2.



**Sunita Narain**

Sunita Narain is a Delhi-based environmentalist and author. She is currently the Director General of the Centre for Science and Environment. Dr Narain plays an active role in policy formulation on issues of environment and development in India and globally. She has worked extensively on climate change, with a particular interest in advocating for an ambitious and equitable global agreement. Her work on air pollution, water and waste management as well as industrial pollution has led to an understanding of the need for affordable and sustainable solutions in countries like India where the challenge is to ensure inclusive and sustainable growth. She was a member of the Indian Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change and has been awarded the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian honour. In 2005, the Centre for Science and Environment, under her leadership was also awarded the Stockholm Water Prize. She continues to serve on national and international committees on environment.

## Jomo Kwame Sundaram



Jomo Kwame Sundaram has been Assistant Director-General and Coordinator for Economic and Social Development at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations since 2012. He was Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs from 2005 until 2012, and (Honorary) Research Coordinator for the G24 Intergovernmental Group on International Monetary Affairs and Development from 2006 until 2012. He has received several honours and awards for his work including the 2007 Wassily Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought.

He has authored and edited over a hundred books and translated 12 volumes besides writing many academic papers and media articles. Jomo was Professor in the Applied Economics Department, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, until November 2004; Founder Director (1978-2004) of the Institute of Social Analysis; and Founder Chair (2001-2004) of IDEAs, International Development Economics Associates ([www.ideaswebsite.org](http://www.ideaswebsite.org)). He was also on the Board of the United Nations Research Institute on Social Development, Geneva. He is on the editorial boards of several learned journals.



## Theme chairs and speakers

### THEME 1: The relevance of 'new metrics' for the evaluation of SDG2 – data revolution and innovative approaches for assessing human wellbeing

#### CHAIR:



#### John Hoddinott

H.E. Babcock Professor of Food and Nutrition Economics and Policy, Cornell University, Ithaca, U.S.A.

Before coming to Cornell, Mr Hoddinott was a Deputy Division Director at the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington D.C. His research focuses on the causes and consequences of poverty, hunger and undernutrition in developing countries. He has been heavily involved in primary data collection through living in a mud hut in western Kenya and a small town near Timbuktu (Mali), in addition to his work in Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kenya, Mali, Namibia, Niger and Zimbabwe. Born in Canada, he has a BA in Economics from the University of Toronto and a doctorate in Economics from the University of Oxford.

## **SPEAKERS:**

**Carlo Cafiero** is a Senior Statistician and Project Manager for the Voices of the Hungry Project in the Statistics Division of FAO. He holds a PhD in Agriculture and Resource Economics from the University of California at Berkeley and a doctoral degree in Agricultural Policies from the University of Naples Federico II. He has taught Statistics, Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Policy in Italy, the United States, Syria and Bangladesh. His research interests focus on quantitative analyses of food security, with special interest in the dynamics of food prices and the measurement of food insecurity. Since joining FAO in 2011, he has been responsible for the revision of the FAO methodology to estimate the prevalence of undernourishment and, more recently, for the development of the Voices of the Hungry initiative (<http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/voices/en>).

**Suneetha Kadiyala** is a Senior Lecturer in nutrition sensitive development at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom, with research interests focusing on the intersection between agriculture/food systems and nutrition. She is also a core faculty member of the Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health, an interdisciplinary research centre aimed at developing research approaches and methodologies that integrate agricultural and health research. She is the Principal Investigator of IMMANA (Innovative Methods and Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions), the United Kingdom Department for International Development's partnership to stimulate the development and application of scientifically sound methods and metrics in agriculture, health and nutrition research. Suneetha is the Principal Investigator of a research programme integrating maternal and child nutrition objectives into a participatory low-cost video driven agriculture extension platform. She is also a co-investigator of Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (LANSA) research consortium.

Prior to joining LSHTM, she was a Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) based in New Delhi. Her main research interests at IFPRI focused on the intersection of structural dimensions of health (especially, HIV and AIDS), food security and nutrition in Eastern and Southern Africa and South Asia and on Agriculture-nutrition linkages in South Asia. Suneetha has a PhD in International Food Policy and Applied Nutrition from the School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University, Boston. She has an MSc on Nutrition Science and a BSc in Food and Nutrition from Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda (India).

**William Masters** is Professor in the Friedman School of Nutrition at Tufts University, with a secondary appointment in the Department of Economics. His research focuses on the economics of agriculture, food and nutrition in rural Africa. From 2011 to 2014 he served as chair of the Friedman School's Department of Food and Nutrition Policy and, before coming to Tufts, was a faculty member in Agricultural Economics at Purdue University (1991-2010), the University of Zimbabwe (1989-1990), Harvard's Kennedy School of Government (2000) and Columbia University (2003-2004). Recent publications include "Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health in Global Development", in the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, "Disease Control, Demographic Change and Institutional Development in Africa" in the Journal of Development Economics, as well as an undergraduate textbook co-authored with George Norton and Jeff Alwang, Economics of Agricultural Development (Routledge, 3rd ed. 2014). From 2006 through 2011 he edited Agricultural Economics, the journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists. In 2010, he was named an International Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists, and he has been awarded both the Bruce Gardner Memorial Prize for Applied Policy Analysis (2013) and the Publication of Enduring Quality Award (2014) from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

## THEME 2: Partnerships and development actors – dealing with the increasing complexity of development processes

CHAIR:



**Simon Levine**

Research Fellow at the Humanitarian  
Policy Group, Overseas Development  
Institute, London, United Kingdom

Simon Levine tries to understand livelihoods, particularly in protracted crises. He has recently worked on what happens to markets in crises and on resilience, and has been working on interdisciplinary teams to find ways of assessing the impact of programmes on livelihoods years after their completion and in the absence of good data. He worked on a variety of development programmes for non-governmental organizations for many years, usually in war and post-war contexts such as Burundi, Cambodia and Mozambique. He then spent nine years living in Uganda, working across Eastern and Central Africa and the Horn of Africa specializing in livelihoods, vulnerability analysis and early response. In Uganda, he also developed a passion for land rights, on which he worked extensively. Since returning to England in 2010 to work at Overseas Development Institute, he continues to want the humanitarian system to get fixed and wishes that more research were able to contribute to something that helped that to happen.

## **SPEAKERS:**

**Julia Betts** has a doctorate in social anthropology from the University of Oxford, and worked subsequently as a social development adviser for the United Kingdom's Department for International Development in London, India and Malawi. She specializes in evaluation design and management, particularly in relation to transnational syntheses, gender and equity issues and aid effectiveness. Julia has a particular interest in the role of international co-operation in conflict-affected/ fragile situations, and in complex governance contexts. The consultancy work of Ms Betts spans a range of international organizations, including the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (Evaluation of the Paris Declaration Phase 2), African Development Bank (Evaluation of Assistance to Fragile States) and many United Nations agencies. She is currently leading the Government of Norway's evaluation of its assistance to the Syria regional crisis.

**Dorothy Lucks** is Executive Director, SDF Global Pty Ltd (Sustainable Development Facilitation). She has a background in science (BSc), business (MBA) and multi-stakeholder management in sustainable development (PhD). She worked for more than 10 years with international financing institutions in design and management of community development, natural resources sector and economic development programmes and has implemented a range of programmes in areas of civil conflict and economic stress. Dorothy is now the team leader for SDF and continues to work internationally as an advisor for international organizations such as the United Nations, Asian Development Bank and the World Bank in many countries across Asia-Pacific, Africa, central Europe and the Caribbean. She facilitates a wide range of projects with government, non-government and private sector organizations, particularly in executive development, adult education, project and stakeholder management, economic innovation, community-based initiatives, environmental protection and poverty reduction. She is currently the Secretary of



the International Organization for Cooperation on Evaluation, an Executive Committee member of EvalPartners. She also co-Chairs the recently formed Eval SDGs network, alongside the United Nations Evaluation Group.

**Cristina Tirado** works on the nexus of climate change, food, health, gender and sustainable development with the World Health Organization (WHO), FAO, governments, non-governmental organizations and universities worldwide. She has served as Pan American Health Organization/WHO Food Adviser for Latin America, WHO Regional Adviser in Europe, Coordinator of the WHO Foodborne Surveillance Program and Director of the PHI's Center for Climate Change and Health in California. She is adviser for several United Nations organizations and is affiliated with the UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles) Institute of Environment and Sustainability. Her current research focuses on the co-benefits of climate change adaptation and mitigation. She is moderator of the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition, WG on Climate Change and Chair of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences Task Force for Climate and Nutrition. She has been a health and nutrition advocate at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change since the Conference of the Parties 15, she was key partnerships' driver at Rio+20 and she contributed to the Women Major Group consultations and HL Food Security and Nutrition for the post 2015 agenda. She was contributing author of the health chapter of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Fourth Assessment Report and she has authored numerous research and policy publications and books. She is a DVM, with MS/PhD degrees in Environmental Sciences from Cornell University.

**THEME 3: National monitoring and evaluation systems and data availability – building on the progress made and addressing existing (capacity) gaps**

**CHAIR:**



**Carlos Barahona**

Deputy Director at the Statistical Services Centre of the University of Reading, United Kingdom

Mr Barahona's main professional expertise is in the design, analysis and communication aspects of research. He helps researchers to convert a research idea into a coherent plan of activities that will gather information to answer their questions in an effective and efficient manner. His consultancy work is focused towards planning and coordinating research projects to maximize efficiency and ensure delivery of project outputs. Mr Barahona is an experienced trainer with a keen interest in communicating complex ideas in a simple fashion and engaging his audience effectively during teaching. He has extensive experience in designing and running training courses in Africa, Latin America and the United Kingdom. He is very interested in the synergies between participatory approaches to research activities and statistical principles.

## **SPEAKERS:**

**Pietro Gennari** is the Chief Statistician and the Director of the Statistics Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. In this role, he coordinates the FAO statistical system by fostering the consistency of the overall statistical programme of work and by ensuring the corporate implementation of international statistical standards and best practices. He is also the current Chair of the Committee on Agricultural Statistics of the International Statistical Institute, Chair of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations system, co-Chair of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities and an active member of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators. Mr Gennari has over 25 years of professional experience in the main areas of official statistics and in managing statistical programmes, both at the national and international levels. Before joining FAO, he worked for the Italian National Institute of Statistics and for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

**Morten Jerven** is Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University and Norwegian University of Life Sciences. He is an economic historian with a PhD from the London School of Economics and, since 2009, has been working at the School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver (Canada). Mr Jerven was appointed Associate Professor in International Relations and Global Change at Norwegian University of Life Sciences in 2015. Since the publication of "Poor Numbers: How We Are Misled by African Development Statistics and What to Do about It", he has published a more detailed study of what happened to economic growth evidence in Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia from 1965 to 1995. Even more recently, he edited "Measuring African Development: Past and Present", along with a special issue in the Journal of Development Studies on the African Statistical Tragedy. His latest book, "Africa: Why Economists Get It Wrong" was published in June 2015.

**Ahmad Zaki Ansore bin Mohd Yusof** is Director General of the Implementation and Coordination Unit (ICU) of the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia, which coordinates, monitors and evaluates the implementation and outcomes of programmes/projects under Malaysia's Five-Year Development Plan. ICU also manages the allocation of the Prime Minister's Programme/Special Projects. He did his undergraduate studies in Economics at the National University of Malaysia and holds a Masters Degree in Science Policy from Saitama University (Japan). An economist at heart, he is also a sports enthusiast.

## THEME 4 - Demand for and use of evidence from evaluation – understanding the political economy of evidence and developing a joint evaluation agenda for SDG2

CHAIR:



**Ian C. Davies**

Credentialed Evaluator and specialist in public governance, management, accountability and finance

Mr Davies provides professional advisory services in organizational governance, public financial management, performance focused management and accountability and evaluation, to executive and political levels of governments, boards and executives of bilateral and multilateral organizations in developing, transition and developed economies. Mr Davies holds a post-graduate degree in public administration specializing in organizational management and accountability for performance. He has been Advisor to the President of the Treasury Board of Canada on performance reporting to Parliament, Director of Performance Audit for the Auditor General of British Columbia (Canada), Advisor to the European Commission on evaluation and reform, Advisor to the European Court of Auditors on sound financial management, Coordinator of Programs for the Ministry of Health and Social Services (Québec) and Director of the Social Sciences department of Sherbrooke College (Québec).



## **SPEAKERS:**

**Thania de la Garza Navarrete** is Deputy Director General of Evaluation at the National Council for Evaluation of Social Development Policy (*Consejo Nacional de Evaluación de la Política de Desarrollo Social, CONEVAL*) in Mexico. The unit led by Ms de la Garza aims to regulate and coordinate the evaluation system of social development policy activities (health, education, development, agriculture and rural development, social development, poverty, labor, science, technology) and public programs executed by the Mexican federal government. At CONEVAL, she has conducted evaluations on public policies and programmes from a perspective of social rights. Of great importance is the coordination of the Report on Evaluation of Social Development Policy 2011, 2012 and 2014, as well as thematic evaluations on social rights. Her work has contributed to the development and strengthening of an evaluation culture in the Federal Government. Through the promotion of the use of evaluations, CONEVAL's work has contributed to the improvement of social development policy as well as transparency and accountability.

**Osvaldo Feinstein** is a senior evaluator, economist, professor and researcher with experience in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin American and the Caribbean countries. He contributed to some evaluations conducted by the Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD in recent years, for instance, the synthesis on middle-income countries and the corporate-level evaluation on grants. He conducted a project performance assessment in Uruguay, led a country programme evaluation in Brazil and was senior independent advisor for the country programme evaluation in Argentina. Mr Feinstein joined the Operations Evaluation Department of the World Bank in 1998 as a manager and then served as the advisor to the Director of the Operations Evaluation Department until November 2004. Prior to joining the World Bank, he was the senior evaluator in IFAD's Office of Evaluation (now Independent Office of Evaluation of IFAD) for almost ten years (1989–1998). He also worked as an evaluation

consultant with the International Development Research Centre, CGIAR, African Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the United Nations Development Programme and other international agencies. He is the author and editor of several articles and books on evaluation, development and economics.

**Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga** has played a predominant role in collating poverty-monitoring data and contributing to Uganda's poverty reports and budget documents. She worked at the Agricultural Economics Department, Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda) and later at the Economic Policy Research Centre and other agricultural institutions in Uganda. She has consulted for the Government of Uganda, as well as EENESA, the European Union, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Service for National Agricultural Research, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank. Ms Nabbumba Nayenga has been working in the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development for 15 years, especially monitoring the agriculture sector. Highly-published in agricultural policy, she also wrote a Gender policy brief for the agriculture sector, "Linking Accountability to Poverty Reduction: Uganda's Experience," and contributed to the Chronic Poverty Report 2005. She has been a key figure in the Uganda Evaluation Association over the last 10 years.

## Acronyms

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

