Sustainable Food Systems
What’s in it for farmers?

Towards
«Resilient, inclusive, diverse food production systems»

1st Global Conference of the 10YFP Sustainable Food Systems Programme
Pretoria, June 23, 2017
Aim

1) Understand farmers’ perspective towards SFS
2) Understand farmers’ barriers to adopt sustainable food production practices
3) Test innovative market mechanisms / incentives for the uptake of “sustainable practices” with a focus on ecosystems / biodiversity
Threats to ecosystems and biodiversity
There are solutions
And incentives to support these solutions

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<td>Rewards for Ecosystem Services (RES)</td>
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<td>Taxes/ charges</td>
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**Direct Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES)**
- Farmers and companies fulfilling government regulations
- Pre-compliance to save costs or position private actors on a new emerging market
- Voluntary action with direct return on investment:
  - Insetting
  - Impact marketing
- Voluntary action de-linked from environmental outcomes
Sustainable Rice Platform
Addressing food security, vulnerability to climate change & resource efficiency

Why Rice

- Food security
- Climate Change Impacts
- Resource Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Founded in 2011: UN Environment and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
- Public-private partnership
Goal: 1 million farmers adopt climate-smart sustainable best practices within 5 years (2016-2021)
And the farmers?

“I found that my crop yield was increased by 15%, along with 20% water saving and 50% labour saving. I am grateful for this positive change for the whole farmer community”

Mr. Asghar Mujahid, from Khairo Pur Mallian Village

“And the farmers?

“After adopting the Sustainable Rice principles, my rice crop cultivation techniques have changed. Before the training, I had no idea that irrigation water could be saved....with no negative effect on crop yield. I was astonished to see tremendous impact on crop growth and yield”

Mr. Abdul Shakoor, from the Village of Daira Raja Sahib
Next steps?

- FAO and UN Environment to introduce this concept at the World Sustainable Rice Platform Conference (4\textsuperscript{th} and 5\textsuperscript{th} October, Bangkok)
- Case studies to be pursued in Cambodia, Pakistan and Thailand and/or Vietnam – possible workshop in January 2018?
- Biovision, FAO and UN Environment to further explore synergies especially in Africa in commodity dominated landscapes
- Approach to be integrated in other Core Initiatives for example ‘setting the table’.
FAO is using **Incentives for Ecosystem Services (IES)** to support the implementation of the **Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM)** in Siem Reap, Cambodia

- Significant landscape for the upper catchment of the Tonlé Sap Great Lake
- Unsustainable agricultural practices
- Need for more sustainable financing to restore landscape, and improve rice productivity and livelihood security

**This includes:**

- Assessing threats to ecosystem services, restoration needs and opportunities
- Mapping existing incentives to support FLRM implementation
- Mobilize public and private co-financing to provide a package of incentives to farmers

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Incentives for Ecosystem Services in Agriculture (IES)
