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<i>Session</i>	10
<i>Title of presentation</i>	How FAO will be supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
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Abstract

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presents a new concept, vision and approach to development that is universally relevant, transformative in ambition, broad in scope, lateral in orientation, and deeply committed to the principle of “leave no one behind.” Translating the agenda into practical action, three issues stand out: (1) how to organize action around the variety of issues and problems that are now recognized as interconnected; (2) what kind of governance is most appropriate for mobilizing the means of implementation and ensuring compliance with intergovernmentally agreed norms and standards; and (3) how will the international community hold itself collectively accountable for achievement of the SDGs? The presentation will highlight a core nexus of policy challenges that drive FAO action, explore the role of partnerships as multistakeholder platforms for enabling action across sectors and disciplines, and describe FAO’s strategy for building up capacities at national level to track and monitor progress toward achievement of SDGs, especially the crosscutting theme of biodiversity.

Key considerations

- The 2030 Agenda calls for a shift away from a vision of development that emphasized “delivery” through discrete vertical silos and instead emphasizes the interconnectedness of issues and challenges across sectors.
- The food and agriculture contribution is best communicated through a “supernexus” of three broad policy themes: ending hunger, malnutrition and poverty; promoting sustainable agriculture and sustainable use of natural resources, including biodiversity, fisheries, forests, land, mountains, oceans, soils and water; and combating and responding to climate change.
- Instead of viewing policy and programmes through the lens of “one objective, one instrument” the new agenda focuses attention on the need to pursue multiple objectives with integrated packages of policies and programmes.
- Operationalizing this new view is technically and politically complex; it demands new modes of collaboration at all levels.
- Establishing an empirical nexus between the issues to be addressed is essential for drawing boundaries and making action politically and technically viable.
- Partnerships are an essential modality for developing and implementing strategies, but require more stable governance than is often the case and must address politically sensitive issues in biodiversity and genetic resources.
- Ensuring efficient and timely data capture and analysis for both national policy analysis and global accountability is a key challenge and will demand significant commitment from all governments.

Key discussion points and conclusions

- A key limitation of many discussions of biodiversity is the weakness of their developmental orientation. In the new Agenda, all issues must be seen not only as goals in themselves but as linked with other issues that must be addressed in tandem.
- It is vitally important to spell out the indispensable contribution of biodiversity to a wide variety of other sustainable development objectives, including ending poverty, hunger and malnutrition, fostering sustainability and resilience, and advancing climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- In particular, there is a need for recognition of the role of family farmers, especially small and medium producers, as well as indigenous peoples in the conservation and development of the world's biological diversity.
- Inclusive people-centered approaches (governance of tenure, territorial approaches) are vital to effective partnerships and provide a basis for effective governance. Inclusive rights-based approaches have been key to FAO's strategy for ensuring the viability and resilience of family farms and their many contributions to sustainable development.
- UN institutions have a key role to play in fostering effective partnerships by supporting government initiatives with expertise (not only their own), upholding norms and standards, and by ensuring the provision of timely, comparable data.

Key question/s that you would pose at the roundtable discussions

- How can/does biodiversity contribute to other sustainable development goals, including:
 - Ending poverty, especially rural poverty, by raising productivity and incomes
 - Ending hunger and malnutrition through diversification of food crops
 - Fostering resilience and sustainability of agriculture and food systems, including fisheries and forests
 - Reducing negative and improving positive climate impacts of agriculture
 - Contribute to climate change adaptation
- What does experience tell us about the appropriate governance mechanisms for promoting and sustaining multistakeholder partnerships for biodiversity and related goals?