



UNDP'S Food & Agricultural Commodity Systems Strategy 2020- 2030

Strategy summary

UNDP brings everything together in 100+ countries for Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems

Strategy in Summary

FACS are fundamental to the sustainable development of the 170 countries UNDP supports. FACS are often the largest contributor to their economies; food and nutrition is fundamental for citizen health; and FACS have a key role to play in achieving the SDGs. Yet, FACS are in crisis and need to be radically transformed to become sustainable. The production practices and consumption patterns in global Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) are on an unsustainable trajectory with multiple impacts on human development, the environment and economies. To ecosystem degradation, conflicts over land and natural resources, reduced capacity and resilience to climate and other shocks, persistent poverty, food insecurity, and related people displacement and migration, and malnutrition including overweight and obesity, we must add the COVID-19 pandemic and its global effects.

We must transform to a new paradigm of agricultural production based on diversified, resilient agroecological systems which work simultaneously on achieving economic, environmental, social, and health outcomes; with smallholders central to the transformation as the engine of economic development. Working on FACS will contribute not only to recovery from the COVID19 crisis, by creating sustainable and resilient livelihoods for many along FAC supply chains, but also by reducing deforestation preventing further zoonoses in the future.

UNDP has for the first time consolidated its FACS support and vision into one innovative strategy. This strategy targets the deep crisis the world finds itself with an integrated approach to the issues and lays a foundation for reshaping global food systems for a sustainable future. With a current portfolio of projects representing over USD 1.2 billion in grants, UNDP works on FACS in more than 100 countries and close to 500 landscapes.

UNDP’s vision for FACS is, through multi-stakeholder collaboration, to transform food and commodity systems into **resilient; equitable; inclusive; environmentally, socially and economically sustainable systems**.

This will be achieved by UNDP building on its trusted relationship with governments to:

- Be the SDG integrator using multi-stakeholder collaboration for systemic change.
- Bring technical expertise in 170 countries to unlock synergies and build capacity for integrated work.
- Build partnerships based on comparative advantage with FAO, IFAD, WHO, UNEP and others.
- Facilitate learning and curating collective knowledge for action.
- Work across multiple geographical scales, top-down and bottom-up.
- Unlock and catalyze private and public – bilateral and multilateral - financing.

3 Key Results from 5 Intervention Areas

To achieve the FACS vision, UNDP’s strategy is focused 3 interlinked key expected results.

1. Upscaling sustainable production landscapes and jurisdictions
2. Transforming food and agricultural commodity supply chains to become sustainable
3. Empowering all members of vulnerable households and smallholder producers to become more resilient, attain food security and pursue sustainable livelihoods

The key results have a multiplier effect: as more food and agricultural commodity supply chains become sustainable, more production landscapes and jurisdictions have a route to sustainability, and more producers have the opportunity for a sustainable livelihood.

UNDP offers support across 5 systemic intervention areas are being devised to drive the achievement of the 3 key results. Working with the expertise and funding of partners, UNDP will develop the detailed structure, strategy and activities in these 5 intervention areas.

At country level:

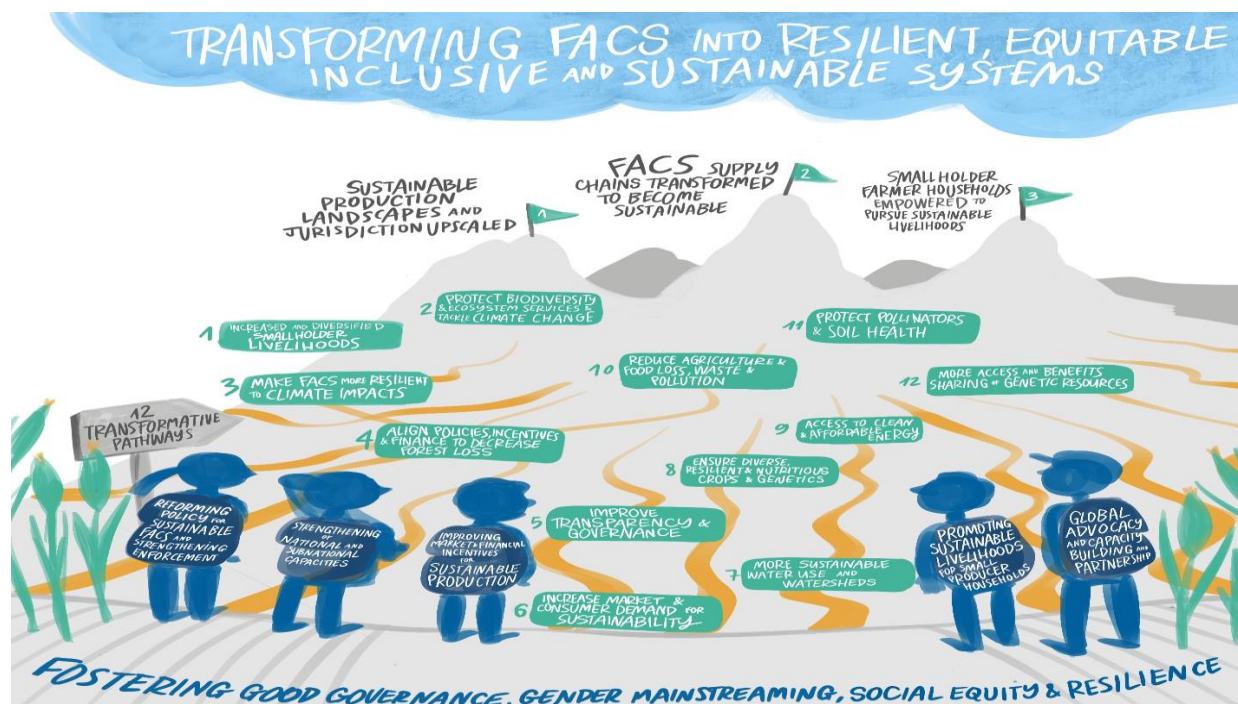
1. Reforming policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks for sustainable and resilient food and agricultural commodity systems and strengthening their enforcement.
2. Strengthening national and subnational capacities and systems to foster sustainable food and agricultural commodity systems.
3. Improving market and financial incentives for producers to shift to more sustainable practices.
4. Promoting sustainable and resilient livelihoods for all members of vulnerable rural households and small producers.

At global level:

5. Increasing global and country level impact through global advocacy, capacity building and partnerships.

UNDP will mainstream the concepts of leaving no one behind, gender equality and women’s empowerment, transparency and governance, and resilience in all interventions. Twelve Transformative Pathways – ranging over energy, water, food waste, biodiversity and more – link Intervention Areas and Key Results. The strategy is shown unfolding - 5 Intervention Areas achieving 12 Transformative Pathways on the way to 3 Key Expected Results – in the below visualization.

Figure 1: FACS Strategy Visualization



In detail, the FACS Strategy is described in this chart

Figure 2: FACS Strategy in detail



Building on existing momentum

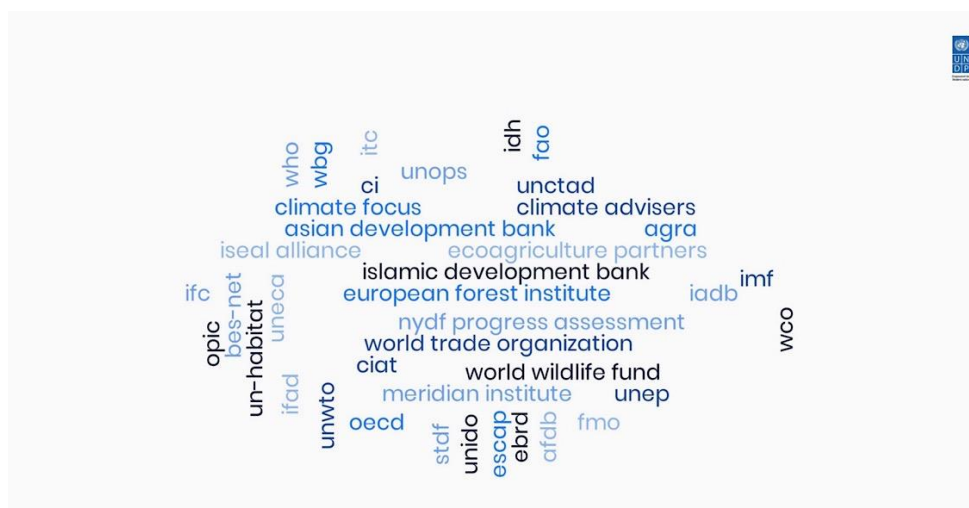
The FACS strategy builds on strong foundations. UNDP has a more than 50 year history of supporting FACS through country-level projects worth more than \$1.2 bn. Flagship initiatives such as SCALA (Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture) with FAO, UN-REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) with UNEP and FAO, and Green Commodity Programme’s National Commodity Platforms are key examples of a \$1.2 billion portfolio which covers sustainable agricultural commodities, value chains, terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, chemical management, governance, livelihoods and gender. The FACS portfolio demonstrates UNDP’s strength in working across ministries of national governments, sub-national governments and with the private sector, including major brands, buyers, processors, financial institutions, at national and global levels.

UNDP’s depth of experience in multi-stakeholder collaboration for systemic change puts collaborative problem solving at the heart of UNDP’s approach, working with traders, industry associations and farmers’ groups alongside governments at all levels. As the strategy evolves, partners and funders will have the opportunity to shape the way forward across the intervention areas, contributing their knowledge, expertise, and experience in the field to build more effective interventions.

Building on a broad portfolio

UNDP’s existing FACS portfolio (Figure 3) shows the broad range of partner organizations, especially sister UN Agencies, already contributing to the development of solutions. We will build on this to include new skills and experience from additional organizations in the field.

Figure 3: Word cloud of FACS portfolio partners



The FACS portfolio covers more than 100 countries and supports close to 500 landscapes, including initiatives that focus on increasing the resilience of agricultural systems and food security for more than 3.7 million people in more than 1,000 small-holder farming communities across over 40 countries, mainly in LDCs. UNDP has joined forces with over 40 international organizations and NGOs to tackle challenges at the roots of unsustainable food and agricultural commodity systems.

The world needs food and agricultural commodity systems that are **resilient; equitable; inclusive; environmentally, socially and economically sustainable**. UNDP is ready to answer that call.

See the full strategy [here](#)