FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SUPPORTING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR COOPERATIVES

FOR FOOD SECURITY

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE GLOBAL CONFERENCE
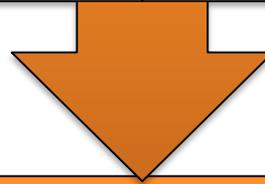
KUALA LUMPUR, NOVEMBER 2017

Food and Agriculture matters to all SDGs

Smallholders are

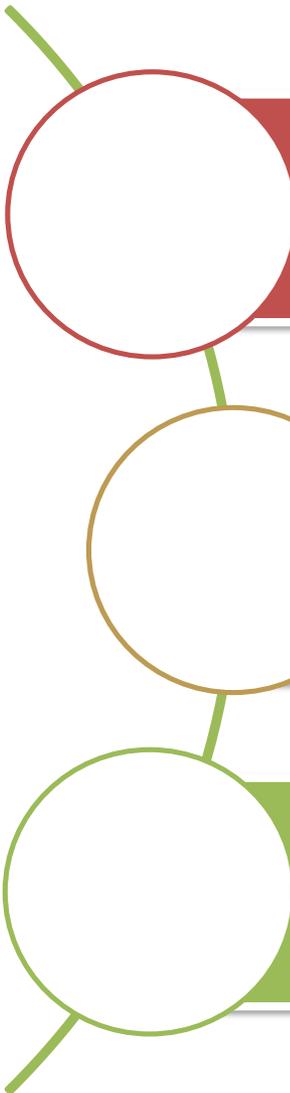| The main investors in the rural sector	The largest food producers in the world

But they are

Dispersed and fragmented	Facing numerous challenges

"Cooperatives and producer organizations are leading the way to a world free from hunger."

FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva, 2015

FAO's WORK IN SUPPORT OF COOPERATIVES AND POs

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT THROUGH POLICIES AND VOICE

Enhance effective participation of POs and cooperatives in policy dialogue spaces to encourage reform of public policies and support policy implementation

ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTHENING

Support performance evaluation, visioning and strategic planning exercises to ensure effective service delivery and support for leadership development

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

Produce and disseminate knowledge on the role and impact of POs and cooperatives, including good practices

FAO initiatives include:

- Technical cooperation programmes aimed at supporting reform of national legislation for agricultural cooperatives and POs and providing an enabling environment for small-scale family farmers to thrive, including in Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Lebanon, Sudan and Oman

- Development of **CoopLex** jointly with ICA (http://cooplex.coop/)

- Supporting SSC exchanges of good practices between parliamentarians and POs and cooperatives to support governmental processes for food security

Facilitating the active engagement of cooperatives in multi-stakeholder processes as well as policy and decision-making fora, **at global level (internal/external to FAO)** :

Key stakeholders

Key high-level processes

FAO facilitating direct exchanges among producer organizations and cooperatives to:

- **strengthen organizations' knowledge and performance**
- **multiply good practices by sharing experiences**
- **promote and disseminate local, cost-effective and proven solutions**
- **Improve capacities for policy design and implementation**