

Measures For A Sustainable Food System

A. Harnessing Digital Technologies

- Harnessing digital technologies to improve food system outcomes looks at the opportunities from digital technologies, including better transparency of agricultural value chains, smarter farms, and improved public services. It also reviews some of the risks, including an over-concentration of service providers, poor data governance, and exclusion.
- Digital technologies can significantly reduce the costs of linking sellers and buyers; reduce inequalities in access to information, knowledge, technologies and markets; help farmers make more precise decisions on resource management by providing, processing, and analyzing an increasing amount of data faster; and potentially reduce scale economies in agriculture, thereby making small-scale producers more competitive.
- Adoption of digital technologies varies significantly across countries, with lower current adoption rates in low-income countries. Increasing its adoption in the food system will require addressing supply side factors such as low rural network coverage and availability of digital application; and demand side factors, including need for better skills and knowledge, trust, affordability, and the absence of complementary investments.



B. Maximizing Finance For Development In Agri Chains

- Current levels of investment in agricultural value chains are insufficient to achieve key development goals including ending poverty and hunger and boosting shared prosperity through more and better jobs.
- There is still a critical need for public resources to finance essential public goods and services such as human capital, agricultural research, and complementary public infrastructure. Crowding-in private investment in the agriculture sector can help achieve development goals and optimize the use of scarce public resources.
- Factors that can help maximize finance for agricultural development include: improving the enabling environment for the private sector, promoting responsible investment, improving the policy and regulatory environment; using public financing to improve private incentives and to reduce transaction costs and risks—including through blended finance.

C. Shaping Food System To Deliver Jobs

- The food system currently employs the majority of people in both self and wage employment in developing countries, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.