

Meeting the growing demand for food in Africa

How can governments support private sector investment?



Even though the world currently produces enough food to feed everyone, 821 million people are still undernourished.¹ Over the next three decades, Africa will experience unprecedented increases in demand for food linked to population growth, urbanisation and income transitions. Producing enough food for a growing population in the context of increasing environmental pressures is both a huge challenge and an important opportunity for inclusive economic growth, investment and poverty reduction. The way in which regional food markets evolve will also have a significant impact on resilience to climate change, food security and health.

This event is an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities of investing in the agri-food sector – with interventions from AgDevCo, CDC, Kenya, IFAD, and DFID – to share learning from initiatives that partner with investors to help create opportunities to transform rural areas.

CDC is the UK Development Finance Institution, established in 1948. Its mission is to support the building of businesses throughout Africa and South Asia, to create jobs, and to make a lasting difference to people's lives in some of the world's poorest places. In 2017, the CDC portfolio value increased to \$5.3 billion, with \$1.4 billion of new commitments.

AgDevCo is a social impact investor and project developer operating exclusively in the agriculture sector in Africa. Its mission is to build successful African agribusiness through long-term investment and support to deliver positive impact at scale.

Wednesday, 13 February 2019, 11:00–12:30
IFAD, Oval Room
Interpretation, tea and coffee will be available



**Department
for International
Development**

¹ FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2018. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018. Building climate resilience for food security and nutrition*. Rome, FAO. <http://www.fao.org/3/i9553en/i9553en.pdf>

Agenda

11:00 a.m.

Opening remarks

Paul Winters, IFAD, Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department
Terri Sarch, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations Agencies in Rome, and United Kingdom Governor to IFAD

The DFID experience

Marco Serena, UK Department for International Development (DFID), Senior Advisor, Agribusiness and Regional Food Markets for the Africa Region
The scope of future food demand in Africa: opportunities and challenges. An overview of DFID's support to investment in the agri-business sector in Africa

The CDC experience

Sami Khan, CDC Group, Director Strategy, Food and Agribusiness
Looking back at CDC experience in the agri-food sector and exploring current and new investment opportunities in Africa

The AgDevCo experience

Daniel Hulls, AgDevCo, CEO
Experiences and lessons from investing in agribusiness in Africa, supporting smallholders to create commercially sustainable enterprises which deliver positive social impact

The experience of Kenya

Teresa Tumwet, Alternate Permanent Representative for Kenya to the United Nations Agencies in Rome, Embassy of Kenya
Facilitating engagement of the private sector

The IFAD perspective

Thouraya Triki, IFAD, Director, Sustainable Production, Markets and Institutions Division
Engaging with the private sector through public sector interventions – stepping up to reach off-track SDG 2

Q&A

Moderator: **Terri Sarch**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations Agencies in Rome, and United Kingdom Governor to IFAD

12:20 p.m.

Closing remarks

Marco Serena, UK Department for International Development (DFID), Senior Advisor, Agribusiness and Regional Food Markets for the Africa Region
Paul Winters, IFAD Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department