



World Food Day | 16 October 2017



**Change the future of migration.**

Invest in food security  
and rural development.

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## Outline of the presentation

1. Video on *World Food Day 2017: Migration should be a choice, not a necessity*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iwoe8EHYZw&list=PLzp5NgJ2-dK4Cvsyc3A966jVFgaY3xx3b&index=6>

2. Global perspective
  3. Regional perspective
  4. Types and root causes of migration
  5. How FAO contributes to address migration challenges
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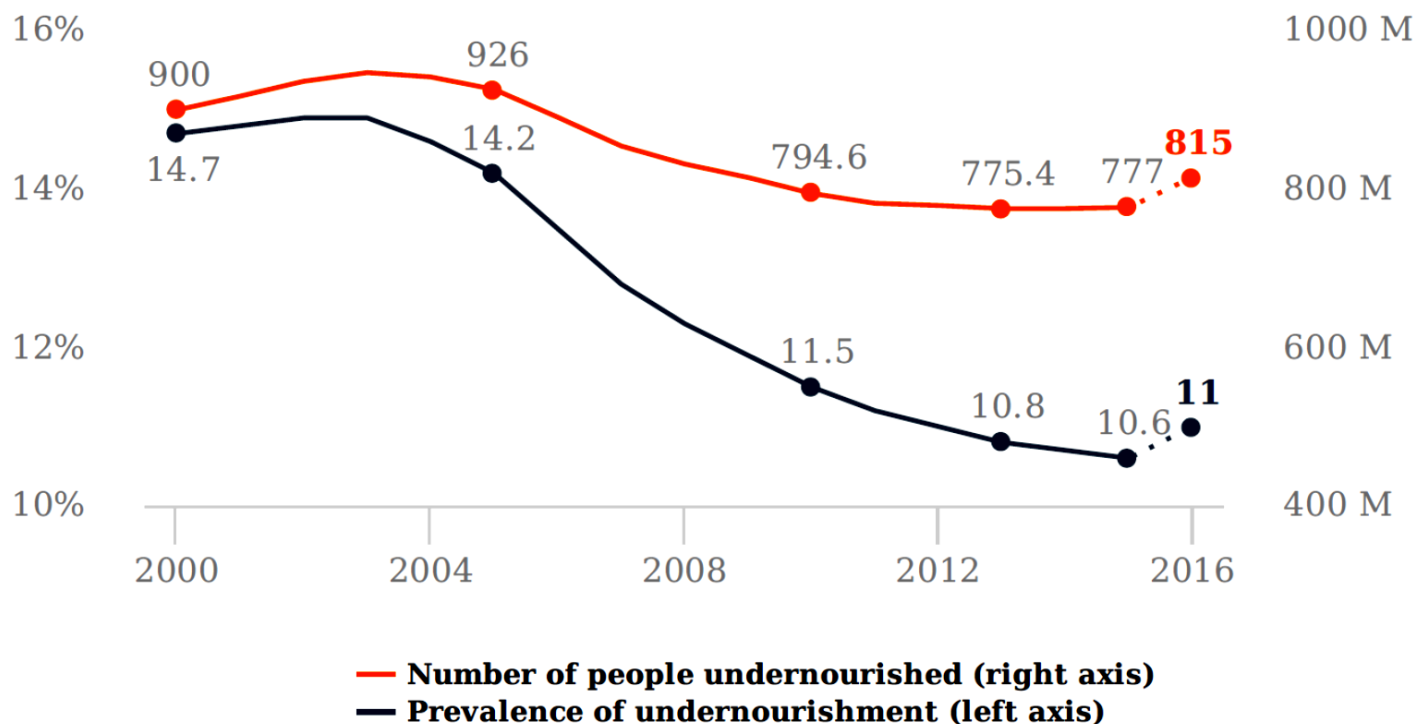
## Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals

- Adopted in September 2015.
- 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated targets.
- Requires a more programmatic and integrated approach.
- Need to re-think development work to ensure that support to agriculture and rural development contributes to achieving the SDGs in a best possible way.



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

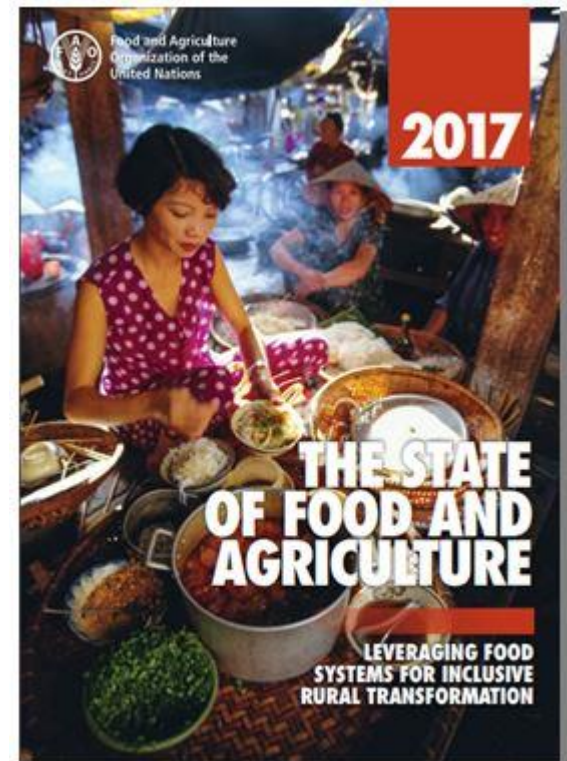
The number of people undernourished in the world has been on the rise since 2014, reaching an estimated 815 million in 2016



NOTE: Prevalence and number of undernourished people in the world, 2000–2016. Figures for 2016 are projected estimates. SOURCE: FAO.

## Importance of Rural Development

- Economic development of rural areas is as important as that of urban areas in reducing overall level of poverty.
- It is time to reassess the role of agriculture and rural development in national development strategies.
- Territorial approaches should be considered in order to help ensure policy coherence and address local needs.
- Revitalizing rural economies helps create jobs for rural people, offering an alternative to those who might turn to migration in search of a better life.





# Regional perspective - challenges

## Rural livelihoods and rural poverty

- 62% of poor live in rural areas
- Migration from rural areas

## Farm structure

- 97% of farms are family farms in Europe (EU28)
- Family farms account for over 70 % of agricultural land in Central Asia

## Sustainability of food production and food systems and climate change

- Land degradation and increase of natural disasters in the region
- Transboundary diseases

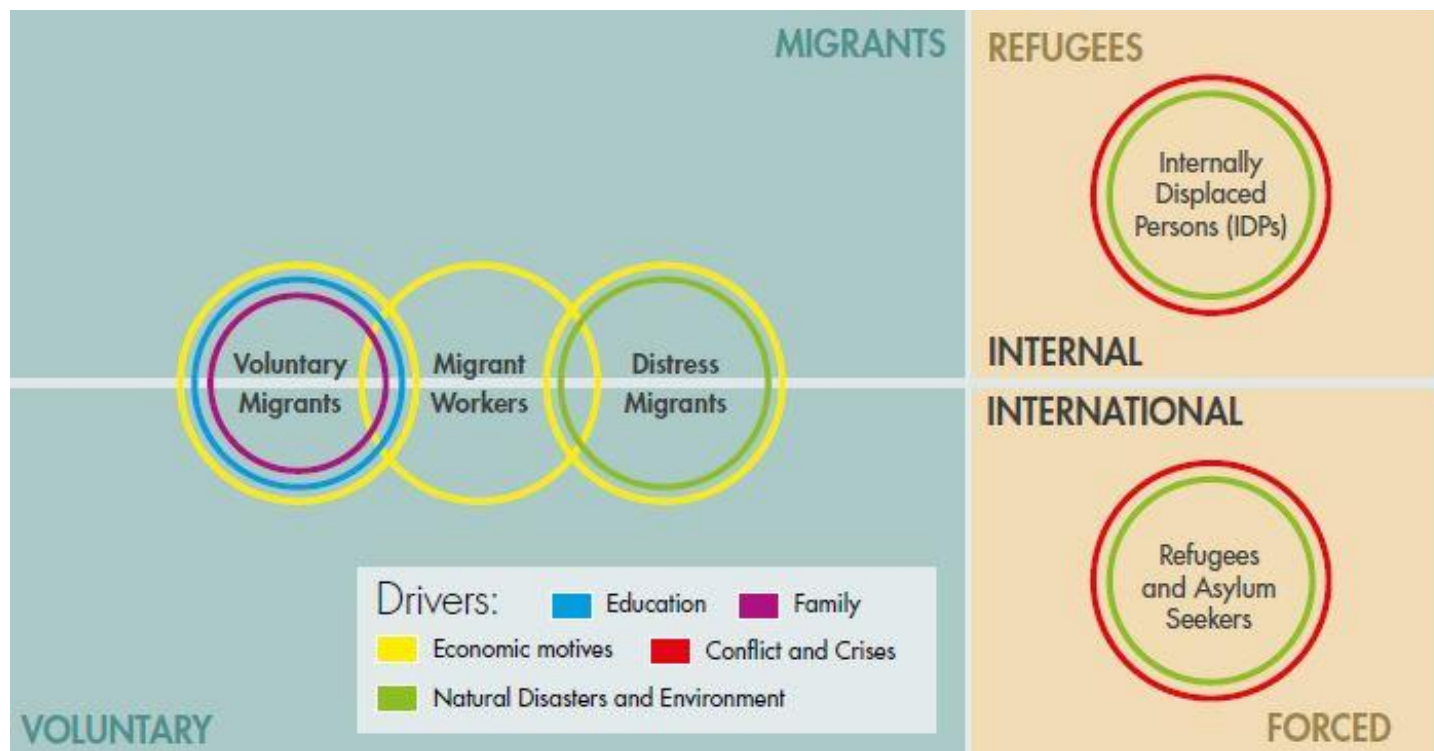
## Food Security and malnutrition

- Triple burden of malnutrition – obesity – micronutrient deficiencies



## Types of migration: the reasons behind

1. Socio-economic factors (migration)
2. Natural or man-made causes (forced displacement)



\*Duration may vary from temporary (seasonal, circular, etc.) to long term.



## Root causes of rural migration

- Rural poverty and food insecurity;
- Lack of employment and income generating opportunities;
- Inequality compared to urban areas regarding the access to health, education and basic services;
- Depletion of natural resources due to environmental degradation and climate change; and
- Limited access to social protection.





## Challenges manifested in FAO priorities

1. **Regional Initiative on Empowering Smallholders and Family Farms:** formulation of effective policies and practices for sustainable inclusive growth for farmers
2. **Regional Initiative on Improving agrifood trade and market integration:** Enhance the reach towards new markets through alignment of trade
3. **Regional Initiative on Sustainable natural resource management**
4. Addressing food insecurity and reduction of all forms of malnutrition – overarching area of work



## Challenges for smallholders and family farms

- Rural communities in the region are usually suffering from several constraints at the same time calling for the need for a programmatic and integrated approach.
  - Many small farms are not competitive and suffer from land fragmentation.
  - Weak access to credit and markets.
  - Lack of rural infrastructure and constraints with infrastructure designed for large-scale collective farming.
  - Weak rural institutions and few income alternatives to agriculture.
  - Many more ....
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## Regional Initiative on *Empowering smallholders and family farms for improved livelihood and poverty reduction*

Components of Regional Initiative:

1. Support policy development and innovative practices for increased sustainable agricultural production
2. Support improvement of rural livelihood and enhanced access to natural resources





## Areas of work under Component 1

- Promotion of **sustainable production technologies** in livestock, plant production, fishery and forestry and increasing the capacity of farmers through farmers field schools;
  - Support **good agricultural practices** including integrated pest management, organic agriculture, conservation of plant genetic resources and proactive drought risk management;
  - **Strengthening the capacities** of institutions and other stakeholders to promote sustainable production technologies and facilitate policy dialogue;
  - Strengthening **extension service**.
  - Support **policy development** in line with the sustainable food and agriculture principles, such as efficient use of natural resources.
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## Areas of work under Component 2

- Ensure improved rural livelihood by supporting preparation of rural development strategies and programmes.
- Community development planning.
- Gender assessments and mainstreaming.
- Addressing land fragmentation issues by introducing land consolidation.
- Statistics and data for policy formulation.
- Include work on improved access to short value chains, decent employment and social protection.





## Way forward

- Advocacy and communication at the **national, regional** and **global** levels is necessary for the importance of investing in the world's most vulnerable who would otherwise be forced to migrate.
  - **Partnering** with other actors is necessary to leverage expertise and resources and maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the response.
  - As co-chair in 2018 of the **Global Migration Group**, comprising 22 UN agencies and the World Bank, FAO will advocate for solutions that make migration an act of choice and not a desperate last resort. Agriculture and rural development have a key role to play in this.
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# Thank you

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FAO Regional Initiative on Empowering Smallholders and Family Farms:  
<http://www.fao.org/europe/regional-perspectives/smallholders-family-farms/en/>

FAO's migration website: <http://www.fao.org/migration/en/>