

**D**espite a reduction in the number of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition, we are still living in a world where **925 million people do not have enough to eat and 98 percent of them live in developing countries** (FAO). The crisis in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa underscores that strengthening **emergency and long-term responses to food insecurity remains a pressing challenge**. By 2050, we will have more than 9 billion people on the planet; in order to feed us all, **agricultural production needs to increase** by between 50 and 70 per cent, and by almost 100 percent in developing countries. This will be impossible without further socially responsible and environmentally sustainable investment in agriculture, and measures to ensure that commodity markets operate transparently and efficiently.

In order to address these issues, G20 Leaders agreed the following at Los Cabos:

- ◆ **Increasing agricultural production and productivity:** Leaders strongly welcomed the launch of the “AgResults” Initiative, aimed at encouraging increased investment in agricultural innovation by developing financial incentives for private and public sector players to research, develop, and deliver products and services that will improve smallholder agriculture. They committed to continue efforts on G20 initiatives, including the Tropical Agriculture Platform (which aims to enhance capacity-building and knowledge-sharing on agriculture), research initiatives for wheat, rice and corn, and the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (which aims to address the underfunding of country and regional agriculture and food security strategic investment plans). Pilot projects focused on innovations in nutrient-fortified crops, post-harvest waste-reducing storage solutions and crop quality technologies in Sub-Saharan Africa are also planned.
- ◆ **Preventing and responding to food crises:** Leaders committed to continue efforts on the Rapid Response Forum (which aims to prevent and manage market crises in a coordinated manner), the Platform for Agricultural Risk Management, the GEO Global Agriculture Monitoring Initiative (which aims to produce accurate forecasts of agricultural production), and regional emergency food reserves. They also reaffirmed their commitment to remove export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Program.
- ◆ **Ensuring sustainability in agricultural production:** Leaders supported the Principles of Responsible Agriculture Investment and encouraged the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security. They also recognized the interagency report on “Sustainable Agricultural Productivity Growth and Bridging the Gap for Small Family Farms”, which contains recommendations on areas where countries could focus cooperation efforts.
- ◆ **Adapting to climate change:** Leaders supported the development and greater use of available technologies, well-known practices and techniques such as soil fertility enhancement, minimum tillage and agroforestry, and called upon international organizations to provide a report on options for improving the efficiency of water use in agriculture.
- ◆ **Improving nutrition:** Recognizing that economic growth and development is hampered by poor nutrition, Leaders supported the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, which targets improved nutrition during





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the 1000 days from the start of a woman's pregnancy until her child's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday, and encouraged the wider involvement of G20 members.

- ◆ **Addressing commodity price volatility:** Leaders welcomed the progress made in implementing the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS). This will help create a more stable, predictable, distortion-free, open and transparent trading system for agricultural products, and thus has a critical role to play in promoting food security. Leaders endorsed the conclusions of the G20 report on the macroeconomic impacts of excessive commodity price volatility on growth and its identification of policy options that countries could consider. They also asked Finance Ministers to report in 2013 on progress on the G20's contribution to facilitate better functioning of these physical markets, and reaffirmed their commitment to enhance transparency and avoid abuse in financial commodity markets. Leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to well-functioning and transparent energy markets by, among other actions, agreeing on improving energy commodities' databases.

### Further information

- ◆ [G20 Leaders' Los Cabos Declaration](#)
- ◆ [2012 Agricultural Vice Ministers' Report](#)
- ◆ [G20 Report on the impacts of excessive commodity price volatility on growth](#)
- ◆ [G20 Deliverables of the Finance Track on Energy and Commodities Markets](#)
- ◆ [B20 Task Force Report on Food Security](#)
- ◆ [Sustainable Agricultural Productivity Growth and Bridging the Gap for Small Family Farms Report](#)
- ◆ [AgResults Initiative](#)
- ◆ [www.g20.org](http://www.g20.org) @g20mexico

