

Thematic Session

Post-disaster Livelihoods Response to unleash Agriculture's Potential

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Location

Geneva, Switzerland

Name: Abdessalam Ould Ahmed
Title: Director, FAO Liaison Office Geneva
Organization: Food and Agricultural Organization



Introduction

- Frequency and scale of disasters pose an unprecedented challenge to countries and international community
- Rural Populations are particularly vulnerable because of weaker infrastructure, lower education levels, health access and weaker resilience



Introduction

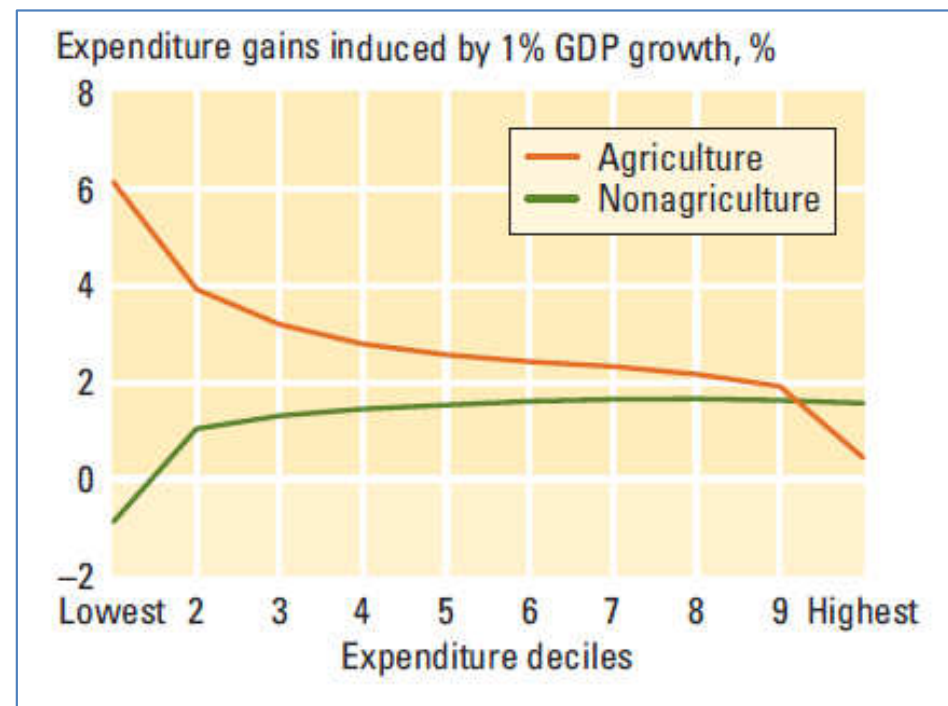
- Developing countries face a fundamental question:
 - How to respond rapidly and effectively to crisis while keeping the focus on the long term development ?
- FAO Emergencies Support Strategies aim at Reviving Livelihoods and unleashing the potential of the Agriculture Sector



Agriculture is key to rural livelihood Support Strategies

Agriculture and rural poverty - some stylized facts:

- Development countries are predominantly rural
- Poverty is widespread in Rural areas
- Agriculture is the major engine of growth in many developing countries, a major provider of livelihoods and contributor to employment
- Agriculture has played a critical role for rural poverty reduction in the developing world



Bangladesh - Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project (ECRRP)

- Cyclone SIDR, November 2007
- Nature of crisis: Fast onset natural disaster (SIDR) / Cyclical disaster prevalence
- World Bank funded USD 16 million project
- Beneficiaries: 104,350 poor farm households
- Multi-pronged innovative CB approach targeting farmers, landless, women: Ownership, transparent targeting, capacity building



Bangladesh - Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project (ECRRP)

- Going beyond providing emergency support and linking livelihood rehabilitation to sustainable development: Boost to Agriculture Production and Incomes
 - Technological shifts (mechanization, salinity resistant rice variety) and improved farmer knowledge (Farmer Field Schools)
 - Diversification to high-value crops and animal production
 - Sustainable management of natural resources
 - Capacity building, sustainability and resilience



Haiti: FAO Haiti Earthquake Response

- Earthquake – January 2010
- Beneficiaries - 390 000 farming families
- A Mega Disaster and complex emergency:
 - Earthquake preceded by cyclone/protracted crisis
 - Predominantly urban with multiple ripple effects on the rural areas and rural populations
 - 2 million people affected /0.5 million migrants to rural areas
 - Vastly poor and degraded rural environment: deforestation, degraded, high rural poverty



Haiti - FAO Haiti Earthquake Response

- A Integrated and differentiated approach:
 - Emergency support – revive livelihoods and agricultural production for vulnerable populations Women, children, IDPs, landless, unemployed
 - Helping the rural population shift to cash crops, beans, bananas, sweet potatoes, while addressing environmental issues through soil and water management measures
 - Assisting migrants meet food security and nutrition needs
 - Promoting urban agriculture to meet urban needs
 - Environment Protection and DRR
 - Local capacity development: strengthening institutional and beneficiary expertise, training
 - Monitoring and analysis



Zambia - 'Farmer Input Support Response Initiative' (FISRI)

- Nature of crisis:
 - Soaring Food Prices 2007-2008, slow onset / structural
 - Poor land use / cyclical natural events / high prevalence of HIV/AIDS
- FAO approach: Partnered project with Government of Zambia and EUFF
- Beneficiaries - 58 800 farmers in 6 provinces
- Innovative twin track approach:
 - Immediate improvement of food security through inputs (e.g. fertilizers and improved seed varieties)
 - Medium- and long-term initiatives: train small scale farmers to increase production and competitiveness, promote good agricultural management and conservation agriculture
 - Innovations: Farmer to farmer training extension, electronic voucher scheme between private sector and agro-dealers, inclusive approach (Government of Zambia, EUFF, Farmers Unions, Communities)

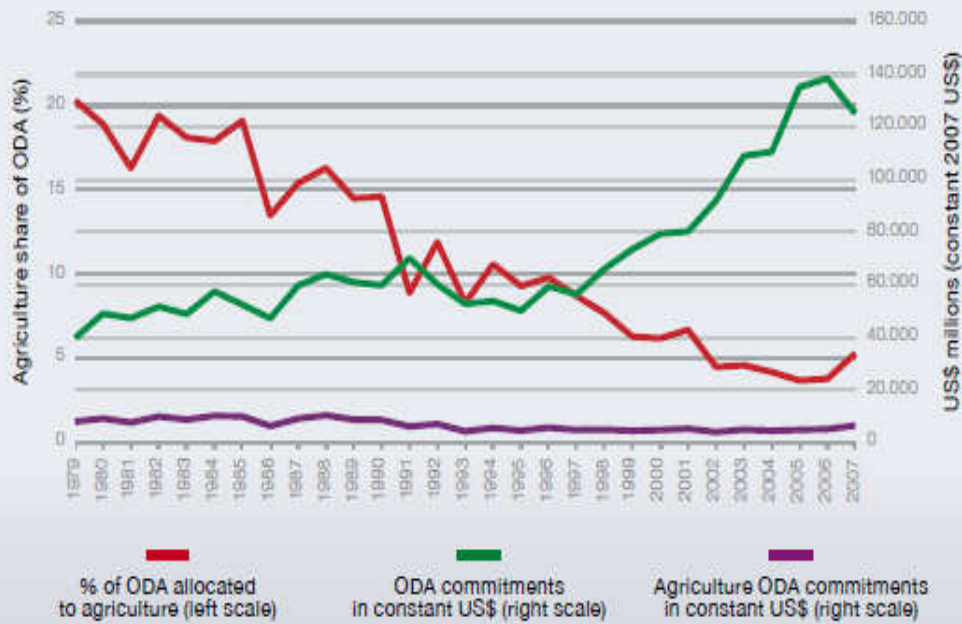


Conclusion: Recommendations for an Integrated and Sustainable Agriculture Post Disaster Response

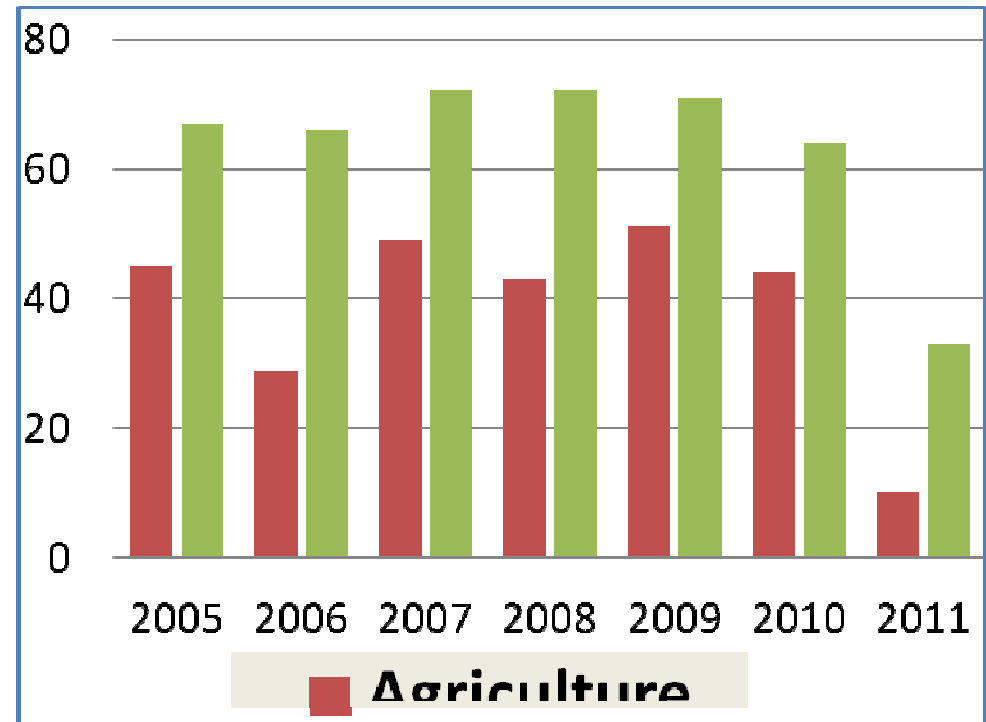
- Agriculture interventions bridge response spectrum from preparedness to development
- ...But agriculture structurally under funded: donors / international organizations need to address funding challenges



Annual ODA commitments: overall trends and share allocated to agriculture



Share of CAP needs met (%)



Conclusion

- Innovative approaches, community based, access to technology, institutional capacity building, are key.

Do Not Go Back to the Start!

