One World – No Hunger

Future of the Rural World
International G20 Conference, Berlin, 27–28 April 2017
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Humanity’s future will be decided in our rural areas. Strong and future-proof rural areas will be able to prevent food crises and offer the people who live there real prospects for the future. Real prospects means, above all, jobs for the young. In Africa alone there will be an additional 440 million young people joining the labour market by 2030. Unless we are successful in offering these young people a future in their own home regions, social and political tensions will rise higher and higher across the world.

At the “One World – No Hunger. The Future of the Rural World” conference, over 130 young people from Africa, G20 countries and Germany who are engaged in the rural world, spoke as advocates and representatives for many millions of young people across the world. Joining with around 700 other participants, they adopted the Berlin Charter, which is a strong call to real action. They discussed initiatives already proving effective in promoting youth employment and rural regions. They also spurred on the G20 to set ambitious goals at the G20 Summit in Hamburg.

We have pulled together for you here some of the highlights and key moments of the Conference. We hope they will serve as reminder of the gathering as well as a “wake-up call” of sorts. The goal will only be achievable if we put a whole lot more effort in together and, more than in the past, work as one to move forward. We should capitalise on the energy, entrepreneurial spirit and motivation that these young people demonstrated so vividly at this conference. This One World is truly our responsibility.

Dr. Gerd Müller

German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
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“We are talking about one of the biggest challenges in the world: creating ONE WORLD without hunger and prospects for the next generation. We put rural youth employment on the G20 agenda. Now it’s time to act.”

Dr. Gerd Müller, German Development Minister
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am pleased to see you all here today – representatives of non-governmental organisations, the academic community, business, young people. A warm welcome to this G20 conference!

A world without hunger is achievable.

And I say that even against the backdrop of the current crisis we are facing. When we look at the Horn of Africa, at South Sudan, at Yemen, we are filled with both concern and shame. People there are fighting for their very survival. But it is not only there that people are suffering – and dying – from hunger. Worldwide, hunger is affecting 800 million people. And two billion people are malnourished – getting sufficient calories but insufficient nutrients. Every ten seconds, a child dies of hunger or malnutrition. That’s 8,500 children a day.

We cannot allow this to happen. We can and must prevent it.

Hunger is murder. Because we have the means to create a world without hunger. Today I call on the international community to stop standing idly by. We need better farming methods. And we need to value our rural areas more. The future of humankind will be decided in rural areas because

• that is where the fight for an adequate, healthy food supply is taking place.
• that is where jobs and prospects need to be created for young people.
• that is where vital resources must be protected: water, soils, forests.
• that is where the global energy transition can be achieved: wind power, solar power, biomass.

Global food security, jobs, conservation of natural resources, climate change – those are the big global challenges. And the answer to those challenges is sustainable rural development.

Yet there is still far too little political focus on rural areas and far too little business investment. The world’s governments need to take on responsibility for the rural world. We need urban and rural development to go hand in hand.

The new generation of young people growing up in rural areas must not be on the losing side of globalisation. That is why, under its presidency of the G20, Germany has added rural youth employment to the agenda.
There are ten points I would like to particularly highlight:

One: We need to beat hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030. We need to satisfy people’s hunger in the short time and put an end to it long term. Adequate healthy food is the basis for all development. Malnourished children cannot learn properly, they are being cheated out of their futures. Investment in food is the most effective investment in the future that can possibly be made. It is doable and affordable – just look at what the world is spending on arms!

Two: The world needs innovative, climate-smart agriculture. The drought in East Africa has given us a bitter foretaste of what climate change can do. And it was the rich countries that caused climate change! No other branch of the economy is so affected by climate change as agriculture. The good thing is: we already know what the key solutions are. And they are both affordable and practicable. Forests capture and store water. Climate resilient seed varieties are already available and should now be improved. Improvements in storage and conservation will reduce vulnerability to crises.

Mistakes were made in the past and the green revolution had its darker sides. Progress often came at the expense of the environment and social justice. But we can learn from past mistakes. We have the chance to launch a new green revolution.

A Green Revolution 2.0 means: innovation through modern, appropriate techniques for small farmers, efficient organisation, fair international agricultural trade rules. We need to harvest from the bottom up. More productivity but with sustainable methods focusing on small farmers.

We need an innovation drive. With our Green Innovation Centres, we are saying: look! it can be done! We can increase yields many times over. Using not more land and more fertiliser but modern knowledge and better organisation. But that kind of innovation is dependent on investment. Small farmers are responsible for 70
per cent of all investment in agriculture. We are opening up opportunities for microcredit and new forms of agricultural financing.

**Three:** It’s not just about agriculture. We need to develop all aspects of the rural world. People in rural areas need the same opportunities and the same rights as those in urban areas. But that isn’t always a given. Rural areas need infrastructure, power, hospitals, schools. People have a right to education and health, no matter where they live.

And rural areas also need a jobs drive to create more employment – not just in agriculture but in many small and medium-sized enterprises. It’s good that this topic is now on the G20 agenda. A modern agriculture and food sector creates jobs – between 2 and 4 times more per dollar invested than in other sectors of the economy. In Africa alone, some 440 million more young people will be entering the labour market by 2030, most of them in rural areas.

Our aim is to create new jobs by means of value creation. That is what my Marshall Plan with Africa is all about – private investment for more homegrown value added in Africa. Developing countries also need to do more themselves. Only 3 per cent of public budgets is invested in agriculture – yet that is the sector that provides a living to 70 per cent of the population. African countries have set themselves the target of 10 per cent – that is good!

**Four:** People need secure land rights. Over one billion people live off the land and yet have no secure rights to it. They risk being driven off their very source of livelihood. That means they have little chance of getting credit. They have little incentive to invest in preserving soils. It is the responsibility of the state to protect the rights of the vulnerable. But investors also have a responsibility. No land grabbing! And so we are demanding that no public funding be provided for investments unless high standards are applied!
Five: We need to fight for equal rights for women. The topic was on the G20 agenda the day before yesterday. Women – still! – have fewer education opportunities, no land rights, poor access to credit. Just by putting an end to the disadvantages that women face, the agricultural sector could feed 15 per cent of hungry people. Governments need to work above all on improving educational opportunities for girls and women. But the private sector, civil society and religious communities all have a part to play when it comes to attaining equal rights for women and girls.

Six: The world needs fair agricultural supply chains and fair purchasing patterns. Small farmers and people working on plantations are still not experiencing the benefits of globalisation. Many of them still live well below the poverty line. With many agricultural products, like cocoa, coffee and cotton, there is no local value creation. It is only the raw material that is exported. The profits are made elsewhere. But whether cocoa farmers can make a living for themselves – that is something that is partly in our hands! Through sustainable, fairly traded products that guarantee a living wage.
Seven: Global trade in agriculture must be made development-compatible. We need to play to fair rules. We need a fairness drive in agricultural trade. Trade-distorting agricultural subsidies are holding back the development of the agricultural sector in developing countries. They need open markets. Quotas and tariff barriers are, for example, making it hard for North Africa to export fruit and vegetables to the EU. Tomato growers in Tunisia could export 300,000 tons of tomatoes to the EU every year and increase their earnings by 300 million euros. The most effective kind of development policy the EU could pursue would be the establishment of a common economic area with Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Egypt. A true partnership, in other words.

Eight: The world needs to protect the rural world’s natural resources. Fertile soils, clean water and biodiversity are essential elements of world food security. And yet, every year, 10 million hectares of fertile land is lost. That is an area about a third of the size of Germany. Our partner governments should use all the technology and all the means at their disposal to manage those resources sustainably.
Nine: We need to protect forests and use them sustainably. Deforestation is continuing across the world apace, with forests making way for soya, palm oil or cattle farming. Every four seconds, an area of forest the size of a football pitch is wiped out – that is about 7.6 million hectares a year. We are committed to stopping that process of deforestation and using forests in a sustainable way. Where forests have already been destroyed, they must be restored. Forests are a vital source of livelihood for over 1.6 billion people. And they play an important role in binding carbon.

Ten: We need to protect the oceans and fish them sustainably. The world’s fish stocks are under threat. The FAO estimates that a third of all recorded fish stocks are overfished. And almost two thirds are being exploited to the very limits of their sustainability. I am campaigning for fair fishing agreements, for the dismantling of subsidies and against illegal fishing.

Ladies and gentlemen,

This afternoon, this conference will be unveiling the “Berlin Charter”. It is not just words on paper. It is a vision and a call to action that comes from the very heart of society. It has been jointly drafted by civil society, business, the research and academic community and many young people. My thanks to all of them!

We are talking about the greatest challenges facing the world: creating a world without hunger and offering hope and opportunities for the next generation. We have put rural youth employment on the G20 Agenda. Now it is time to act – together with our strong partners from the G20 group, which brings together the major industrialised countries and emerging economies.

We want to agree on specific activities that will help improve the future prospects of the next rural generation. Those include reform efforts in Africa, training, access to land and investment. There are many young people here in our audience today. Because we want to have a discussion with you, not about you.
Over the last three days, we have had a youth congress. I have listened to you. You want to take control of your own future. You want to move ahead – with your ideas, your innovations, as founders of businesses, initiatives, NGOs. Together with you, we can have a Green Revolution 2.0.

The message we want to send to everyone today is: a world without hunger is possible. If everyone plays their part.
“We have to make it possible for the rural regions to be better linked with the world’s booming urban centres. We have to make it possible for rural regions to have jobs and food, of course. But they should also have everything that goes along with generating cultural activity and fulfilment.”

Peter Altmaier, Head of the German Chancellery
Dear Minister, Dear colleague Gerd Müller, Your Excellencies and, above all, good morning to all of you who are here today to talk about this topic, a topic which is of such great importance to our world. It is my great honour and pleasure to greet you warmly on behalf of Chancellor Angela Merkel. She asked me to tell you that the topic that you are discussing today will remain on the agenda for all of us, not just in the context of the German G20 Presidency, but for the long term.

Like Gerd Müller, I, too, can remember back to the 70s and 80s when hunger and under-development, particularly in African and Asian countries, made it onto the agenda for the first time. There was a lot of readiness to help and alleviate need back then. Of course, there have been many changes since then. Many countries in Africa have enjoyed impressive economic growth. There are regions and cities where young people have real opportunities. At the same time, however, we have seen many problems become more ingrained and, of course, whole new problems emerge. Population trends observable in many African countries have the potential to gradually throw into doubt almost all the progress that has been made.

When the German Chancellor was in Mali and Niger recently, she was told that Niger now has a population of around 18 million people. The average age of the population is 14. By the end of the century the population is projected to reach 100 million. No-one at this stage has any idea how it will be possible to provide these people with a prospect of a life of dignity, a share of prosperity and a good education of the sort to which we in Europe, in the United States and elsewhere are accustomed. That is the reason why this conference is an official part of Germany’s G20 programming.

The G20 emerged primarily against the backdrop of the major international banking and stock market crisis. It emerged in the context of financial markets that were operating in many instances unchecked, had partially ceased to function and were threatening the very stability of the world.

Over a period of almost a decade we have repeatedly discussed financial markets at the G20, topics often termed the “hard issues” of international relations. This year we made a very conscious decision to include other issues on the agenda of the German presidency of the G20. We are serious in particular about putting the development prospects of young people in rural areas at the very forefront of discussions. It has often been said that these are the “soft issues”. That is truly a matter of perspective. If you are personally affected, if you live in the countries where these problems have got out of hand, these are in no way “soft issues”. Rather, they are life-critical challenges determining your very survival. It is certainly time for the G20 to take a much closer look at these issues than has ever been accorded them in the past.
We are keenly aware of the responsibility we bear in this context. Eight years after the world economic crisis, the global economy is back on a growth trajectory. But the recovery is fragile at best. And there are very real phenomena that call for a response: terrorism, migration, poverty, climate change. If that were not enough, in many countries these problems are joined by increasing populism, nationalism, protectionism and in many cases, a distinct increase in violence between countries and within countries.

Our citizens are asking political decision-makers whether they are capable of steering globalisation in the right direction. They are asking leaders whether they are able to ensure that the spread of digital technology not only leads to economic growth and productivity gains, but also helps find solutions to the problems I just listed. They are asking what contribution digital technology can make to creating new prospects in developing countries.

Global problems, as I am sure you have already heard from Minister Müller, can only be tackled with global solutions. There is not a single country on Earth, whether developing country, emerging economy or industrialised country, that is capable of doing this alone. We can only solve these problems together. There is no guarantee that we will automatically solve these challenges. We will only solve them if we draw the necessary consequences, in the way we set priorities nationally, but also in a realignment of our international cooperation. We must place the focus squarely on the issues that have been repeatedly forgotten or overlooked in the past.
We are living in very particular, very difficult times. For that reason, I believe that this G20 summit is more important than many a summit in the past. Part of that conviction lies in the challenges we face in the international refugee situation, a situation that places demands on us that are unprecedented in recent times. 60 million people are currently on the move. In just one country, Syria, half the population has taken flight. And in many other countries in Africa, Asia and South America, local and regional migration flows demand solutions. But I also believe that there is a window of opportunity to set the correct course together. I will quite consciously repeat what I have said before: We need an interconnected world, a world connected by the division of labour, a world with good governance. The motto of Germany’s G20 presidency is after all “to shape an interconnected world”. We chose that slogan intentionally because we believe it applies to all countries equally. We believe that on this continent and across continents, we must try to push aside what divides us and put international cooperation at the forefront of our efforts.
We want to ensure that young people have prospects for the future. And that these prospects go beyond the option of moving away or trying to get to other countries via smugglers and human traffickers in search of perceived better opportunities for themselves and their families. And, of course, we must also offer prospects to those for whom leaving is not an option, simply because they lack the resources.

In today’s world, migration is a phenomenon that is not about to go away. People will never stop being interested in moving, or making plans to move, to other countries, in thinking about studying abroad or working elsewhere, or in just seeking their happiness elsewhere. There are many German students, indeed, who dream of working in other countries, including countries in Africa, and of making a life for themselves there. Migration can never, though, be a solution for 500 million, for a billion, two, three, four billion people who are on the lookout for new prospects. That is why we must devote more attention to those things that create fair opportunities everywhere.

We must first work to increase the resilience of our world economy. That means we must minimise the risks that threaten the world economy. That will only work if we resolve not to reverse the process we have begun with regard to the global economy and financial markets. In the light of many a proposal or debate we may have heard in recent weeks and months, I say categorically that we believe it is important to avoid a repeat of the 2008/2009 world economic crisis or any event like it. A repeat of such an event, resulting in a global loss of economic growth, would have impacts that would go well beyond the borders of countries enjoying prosperity today. Above all, the emerging economies and the poorest countries in the world would be the ones affected. We have a keen interest therefore in ensuring we avoid such a situation occurring ever again.
We would like to take a clear stance against protectionism. We believe that the advantages of open markets for our citizens need to be better explained. Of course we also know that open markets alone are not going to provide the solution for many young economies still in the process of development. This is precisely, however, where we need to reduce trade barriers further and recognise that ultimately both Europe and Africa will benefit if African countries also have the chance increasingly to export their goods at fair prices to the European Union. That is the principle of international division of labour and it works in both directions. For that reason we have always advocated within the European Union for reflection on what we ourselves can do to clear the way for the export of goods from the young economies of Africa and Asia.

We must improve sustainability. Quantitative growth is important, but so is qualitative growth. We must ensure that we step up the fight against climate change. We all know that climate change is a threat levelled most keenly at the countries of Southern Africa. Climate change will alter the world increasingly. But those changes will be felt earliest, hardest and most negatively by the countries of sub-Saharan Africa. We are therefore keen to ensure that extensive agricultural land is not lost, that livelihoods are not lost on a large scale, and that we head off a climate-migration flow that has the potential to exceed many times over the migration levels we have witnessed thus far.

Increased use of digital technology can play a role in the development of countries that so far have been cut off from equitable development opportunities. We cannot allow a situation where the development that needs to take place proceeds at the same rate as it did, for example, following the war in Western Europe or in Eastern Europe after the fall of the Iron Curtain. It is imperative we try and create shortcut options, to give people a chance to shorten the development trajectory. This must include the use of digital options. It also means favouring an international openness where representatives of developing countries have greater opportunity of participating in international debates. When you see how tech savvy young people in Africa are, the hundreds of millions of smart phones in Africa, even in regions that have not been able to keep pace with industrial and trade developments, that is where the opportunities lie.
We must take our responsibility seriously as industrialised countries by taking on the challenges I have listed, together. The G20 will be strengthening its partnership with Africa. That means assuming more responsibility for peace and security. It means assuming more responsibility for economic development, including in countries and regions we have not had so many dealings with in the past. We must recognise that every human being has the same rights, from birth to life’s end. And yet many people are prevented from realising those rights. We need to change that. We will need to work together to change it. And it is in Germany’s and Europe’s interest for us to be successful.

And success will not come just as a result of government action and funds. My colleague, Gerd Müller addressed the German cabinet yesterday to explain the scale of capital needs in Africa, for example, if the necessary investments in infrastructure and a healthy economy are to be realised. Government funds will in no way suffice to cover that need. It will only work if we motivate the private sector to invest - to invest in infrastructure and in economic growth. For that reason, we will be trying as the G20 to support Africa in creating more and better jobs, particularly for the young generation.

Gerd Müller has said that we will be putting particular emphasis on the issue of “vocational training for women” and creating greater awareness for the rights of women. We will be doing this, not just because we have known since the French Revolution that all people are born free and equal. We will also be doing this because we are convinced that the process of emancipation that took 100 years in Europe must not be allowed to take 100 years in Africa. We will be best able to unlock the development potential, productivity potential, peace potential and sustainability potential of Africa if in the next few years we enable women to participate equally in economic processes. This is not a side issue; it is an issue crucial to our efforts in coming years.
There are more young people on our planet home than ever before: 1.2 billion young people between the ages of 15 and 24. That is over 14% of the total world population. In Africa alone 440 million young people will be entering the labour market by 2030. Agricultural production will have to rise by at least 60% in order to feed the growing world population by 2050. This is doable. It is even doable in a sustainable way. But we need to recognise that the methods and funding required are not equally available in all countries. And we must also acknowledge the fact that in rural areas in many cases jobs in agriculture are just not seen as being sufficiently attractive. This is why young people seek to move to urban centres or overseas. And so in rural areas there emerges a lack of young, proactive, energetic, forward-thinking young employees who could bring innovative ideas and entrepreneurial potential to the area. This leads to the vicious circle of the need for growth in agricultural productivity at a time when the actual trend in productivity is increasingly jeopardised by the loss of jobs and employees. We need to meet this challenge. We will only be successful if we can realise development prospects for rural regions as well as urban. We have to make it possible for the rural regions
to be better linked with the world’s booming urban centres. We have to make it possible for rural regions to have jobs and food, of course. But they should also have everything else that goes along with generating cultural activity and fulfilment. That is why we must ensure that young people in particular benefit more than they have from the new opportunities and innovations that we have experienced in recent years.

We must also encourage young people to participate in a dialogue. I am pleased that we will be hearing from young people very soon on how they picture the solutions to their problems. We will not find the solutions to all the world’s problems in the meeting rooms of the United Nations, the European Union or here in Germany. The problems can only be solved if the young generation in these countries put all their energy into working together with all of us to make solutions possible. And that is why in the future we need to build awareness, but also capital. We must ensure that agricultural productivity increases in those areas where achieving resilience to climate change will be particularly challenging. We have many promising developments, for example in the area of precision farming, that is made possible by the use of digital technologies. And we must ensure that these technologies are available not just in areas where agriculture is already highly productive, but across the world, wherever food is produced.

We will advocate within the G20 for job opportunities for young people in rural areas. That means that we will attempt to combine all elements we have discussed thus far into a new concept.

Minister Müller, you have triggered an incredible discussion with your Marshall Plan with Africa, not just here in Germany and in Europe, but well beyond those shores. This has become increasingly apparent to me in conversations with international visitors to the Chancellery over the last few weeks and months. This pivotal moment, where everyone is discussing the challenges and future
of Africa, is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

Ladies and gentlemen, I can remember my parents talking, when I was very small, about the hunger they experienced in Germany. I come from an area that was destroyed in the Second World War, just as other vast areas of Europe were destroyed in that war. I can remember my parents talking about a decade of never feeling their stomachs were full, of there being no hope for the future. They were talking about the time from the beginning of the Second World War to the beginning of the 1950s. At that time no-one would have believed that we would be in a position to eliminate hunger within another decade and introduce economic development that gave people the real prospect of a decent existence for the first time, a prospect that was not just for a handful or for the rich, but for everyone. We managed it: in Italy, in France, in Belgium, in the Netherlands, in Germany. Everywhere where for so many years it looked as if life could never be turned around. That gives me confidence that we can effect a change for the better somewhere else, too.

When we look at how such encouraging developments have occurred in many Asian countries – in China, South Korea, Vietnam, India and elsewhere – that are making the world a better place for many people, then I believe that it is also possible in Africa and elsewhere. If this conference can make even a small contribution to that end, then it will have achieved its goal.

Minister Müller, I wish you all the best for the conference and hope you will have some engaging discussions. And now I am keen to listen to the young people here to see what they have to say. Thank you.
“We must invest heavily in Africa’s rural areas and turn rural areas from zones of economic misery to zones of economic prosperity.”

Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank
**Guten Morgen!**

I wish to thank my friend Minister Gerd Muller for inviting me to speak at this important forum on the Future of the Rural World. You are a great friend of Africa and of the African Development Bank. Germany is providing remarkable global leadership at a crucial time for our world.

I welcome and highly commend Chancellor Angela Merkel for her inspiring leadership, for stepping up support through the highest-ever German support for international development and most specially for launching the Compact with Africa. The African Development Bank strongly welcomes the Compact with Africa and will work closely with Germany and the G20 to deliver on the compact across Africa. As Africa’s own Bank – trusted by Africans – we are best placed to do this, as you noted when you visited our offices in Abidjan, recently.

The rural world is one I know very well. I grew out of poverty myself and went to a rural school, where we had to walk for kilometers to find water and study with candles or kerosene lanterns. By God’s grace, I made it out of poverty to where I am today. But for tens of millions of those in similar situations, especially in rural Africa, the outcome is not like mine. For many, their potential has simply been wasted.

The rural space is where some 60% of Africans live. They depend on agriculture for livelihoods, as well as other non-farm and off-farm activities to complement seasonal farm earnings. The key to improving the quality of life in rural areas therefore revolves around the transformation of the agricultural sector. The low productivity of agriculture, poor state of rural infrastructure, especially rural roads, water, electricity and sanitation, digital exclusion and weak access to financial markets make quality of life poor in these rural areas. Unfortunately not much has changed for rural areas since my own growing up days at my rural school. Economic opportunities are shrinking for many, with high poverty levels, leading to inter-generational transfer of poverty. As a result, rural youths are discouraged, disempowered and vulnerable. It is this fragility of rural youths that make them vulnerable to recruitment by terrorists who find decimated rural areas ideal for their activities.

We must pay particular attention to three factors: extreme rural poverty, high rates of unemployment among the youths and climate and environmental degradation – what I refer to as the “disaster triangle”. Wherever these three factors are found, conflicts and terrorism take root, which severely destroys people’s ability to go to farm and damages transport logistics to access food markets. We must invest heavily in Africa’s rural areas and turn rural areas from zones of economic misery to zones of economic prosperity. We must create jobs for the youths and disrupt terrorists’ recruitments that are taking root in these rural areas. So, we must connect economic security, food security and climate security.
We need to jumpstart the transformation of the agricultural sector. The future of the rural world depends on the future of agriculture. Agriculture must move away from being treated as a social sector for managing poverty in rural areas to a business for creating wealth. Development of agricultural value chains will create market opportunities for hundreds of millions of farmers. Africa spends US $35 billion on food imports annually. This amount is expected to rise to US $110 billion by 2025, if current trend continues. In doing so, Africa decimates its rural areas, exports jobs and erodes incomes of its farmers.

Imagine what US $35 billion will do if Africa feeds itself: It is enough to provide 100% electricity in Africa. And US $110 billion savings in food imports is enough to close all infrastructure deficits in Africa.

So we must think differently. Africa produces 75% of cocoa but receives only 2% of the US $100 billion a year chocolate market. The price of cocoa may decline, but never the price of chocolates. The price of cotton may fall, but never the price of garments and apparels. While coffee farmers face declining prices, coffee grinders smile all the way to the markets.

To transform its rural economies Africa must embark on agricultural industrialization and add value to all its agricultural commodities. Governments should provide incentives to food and agribusiness companies to locate in rural areas. Staple crop processing zones – vast agro-industrial zones, enabled with infrastructure – should be developed, to support food industry to establish in rural areas. This will reduce cost of doing business, create huge markets pull for farmers and reduce post-harvest losses. These
staple crop-processing zones will transform rural Africa into new zones of economic prosperity. The Bank will be investing US $24 billion in agriculture in the next 10 years, to help drive the transformation of African agriculture.

We must get the youths into agriculture and they must see it as a business. That’s why the Bank has rolled out its ENABLE Youth program to develop a new generation of young commercial farmers and agribusiness entrepreneurs. Our goal is to develop 10,000 such youth agricultural entrepreneurs per country in the next 10 years. In 2016, the Bank provided US $700 million to support this program in eight countries and we’ve received requests from 30 countries.

This is part of our larger program to support Africa to generate 25 million jobs in the next 10 years through our Jobs for Youth in Africa initiative. As we speak today, the first-ever Africa Youth in Agriculture Forum is being held at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Nigeria, with the support of the African Development Bank. The youths are the present and future of Africa. Let’s listen to Africa’s youth, support their ideas, ignite their creativity and enable their entrepreneurship.

A better rural world requires universal access to electricity. Lack of access to power is the biggest decelerator of Africa’s development. With 645 million people without access to electricity, majority in rural areas, life is just simply tough. That’s why we launched the New Deal on Energy for Africa, to achieve universal access to electricity in ten years. Our goal, to light up and power Africa, is to connect 130 million people through the grid and 75 million via off-grid systems and provide 150 million with access to clean cooking energy.
The Bank has committed US $12 billion over five years to energy in Africa and expects to leverage US $45–50 billion. The Bank is leading on renewable energy in Africa. We’ve set up a US $500-million facility for energy inclusion to provide affordable finance, equity and debt, to support businesses in renewable energy doing up to 30 MW. Majority of these will be operating in rural areas. We’ve launched the “Africa Off-Grid Energy Revolution” and will be rapidly scaling up financing to scale up business models to reach tens of millions of rural households with electricity and clean cooking energy.

Providing rural areas with electricity will improve overall quality of life: kids will study with electricity instead of candles or kerosene lanterns, the youths will be connected to the digital world, creating hope. It will reduce rural-to-urban migration and the migration to Europe – because even insects migrate from where it’s dark to where there’s light. When there’s light in rural areas, it will unleash a new dynamism across Africa.

We must empower women in rural areas of Africa. They work so hard, carrying babies on their backs, selling food and eking out a living doing petty trade in the scorching sun, working hard on farms using hoes and cutlasses, yet without security of land tenure, walking kilometers to find fuel wood to cook meals or water for their households. What can Africa do without women? A new rural economy must expand economic opportunities for women and provide them access to affordable finance. That’s why the African Development Bank has launched the Affirmative Finance Action for Women (AFAWA) to leverage US $3 billion for women entrepreneurs in Africa, majority in rural areas. Just as birds only fly with two wings, so Africa must fly by giving women full equality with men.

We must close the digital gap in rural areas. The most powerful tool in the hand of a farmer today is the mobile phone. We must use them to accelerate access to farm inputs, deliver finance, insurance, market information, extension services and health care services in the rural areas.
I know the power of this very well. As Minister of Agriculture in Nigeria, I introduced a mobile phone-based system to accelerate farmers’ access to farm inputs. The e-wallet system led to remarkable transformation of the rural economy. Over a period of four years, Nigeria reached 15 million farmers with access to improved seeds and fertilizers. More importantly, over 2.5 million women farmers got their farm inputs through the electronic wallet system on their mobile phones.

As one of the farmers, Hajia Ladi Baladi, told me, “Now we get our farm inputs on our mobile phones. Men cannot cheat us anymore.” With access to farm inputs, farmers expanded food production by an additional 21 million metric tons over four years, reviving rural economies and creating massive amounts of rural jobs. The African Development Bank is now helping to expand this e-wallet system to many African countries.

The success of mobile banking in Kenya has also been remarkable, providing millions of people access to remittances and transactional banking services. The African Development Bank is working now with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support expansion of digital financial services in African countries, especially in the rural areas. We must build resilience in rural Africa. Climate change is having disastrous effects on Africa. We can no longer ignore its effects nor
pretend as if this is some kind of a hoax. Across Africa, droughts are decimating lives and livelihoods. We are witnessing this year the worst effects with some 20 million people at risk of severe malnutrition. We have a moral obligation to respond, but an even greater obligation to meet global commitments to support climate adaptation in Africa. That’s why I call, again today, for the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility to pay for risk insurance premiums for African countries to the African Risk Capacity (ARC) to insure themselves against catastrophic risks.

Our actions must focus on building resilience in the affected countries. We must address immediate needs for access to food, water and sanitation, while in the medium to long term we must accelerate access to improved seeds, fertilizers, water, forages for livestock and build more resilient agricultural systems.

To help address the current crises, the African Development Bank has designed and will be launching its “Say No to Famine” initiative. The Bank will deploy US $1.1 billion, subject to Board approval, to address immediate, medium- and long-term resilience-building in affected countries: South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda and Nigeria. We will connect humanitarian and development ladders. The long-term solution is to boost food production in Africa and provide better policies, infrastructure, markets and logistics to move food from food surplus to food deficit areas.

We must address the high levels of malnutrition across rural Africa. Some 28 out of 30 countries with stunting rates of above 40% are in Africa. Malnutrition costs Africa about $25 billion a year. Stunting levels are too high, with 54 million stunted children, 14 million wasted children and 10 million obese children. Yes, we need infrastructure, but the best infrastructure we must build is what I call “grey matter infrastructure”. Better-nourished children have better cognitive capacity and will study and learn better.
Therefore, investing in nutrition is not a social issue; it is an economic issue, because stunted children today will lead to stunted economies tomorrow. I therefore call for the establishment of Nutrition Social Impact Bonds to front load financing in support of interventions to address malnutrition, including scaling up breastfeeding in the first 1,000 days, bio-fortified foods, community-based nutrition, food supplementation and conditional cash transfers for women to support nutrition and child education. To push for political accountability on nutrition in Africa, the Bank has set up the African Leaders for Nutrition, to support countries push to reduce malnutrition and stunting.

We must ensure political leaders are accountable for the development of rural areas. Politicians take the rural areas for granted, turning to them as hunting fields for votes before elections, quickly forgetting them once they get to power. While several countries have initiated decentralization of governments, the power of the poor to negotiate remains weak, and even weaker in holding regional, provincial and district governments to account.

There is need for greater transparency and accountability in the management of public finances for rural areas. One way to achieve this is by requiring all regional, provinces and districts to publicly publish their financial statements, on incomes and expenditures. Furthermore, I propose the establishment of Poverty Accountability Index to measure and rank politicians based on their ability to reduce poverty and improve quality of life in rural areas. That way, rural voters will know who is working for their interests and hold their leaders to account.
The African Development Bank is taking bold actions for Africa and delivering bigger and better results for Africa – majority of the benefits reaching rural areas. So let me summarize the Bank’s delivery in 2016 alone in “action units”:

- 3.1 million people benefitted from access to electricity;
- 3.7 million benefitted with access to water and sanitation;
- 5.7 million people benefitted from access to agriculture;
- 9.1 million people benefitted from access to health services;
- 7 million people benefitted in access to improved transport.

The African Development Bank is delivering for Africa and it has the capacity to deliver more for Africa. The Bank now needs substantial financing wind behind its sails. It’s time for speedy financing actions to accelerate Africa’s development. Doing so will make our dream for Africa with Agenda 2063 come to pass sooner, for action brings the future to the present.

We strongly support the Compact with Africa and its focus on food security, energy, jobs, infrastructure, peace and security. These are all in line with the High 5 priorities of the African Development Bank: light up and power Africa; feed Africa; industrialize Africa; integrate Africa; and improve the quality of life for the people of Africa. UNDP’s recent report shows that if African countries focus on these High 5s they will achieve 90% of the SDGs and 90% of the Agenda 2063. In short, these High 5s are the accelerators of Africa’s development.
A strategic partnership between Germany and G20 and the African Development Bank will help to accelerate Africa’s development. Let me assure you Minister Mueller of the Bank’s strong support for the Compact with Africa. I wish to personally thank you for your call for a significant general capital increase for the African Development Bank. Africa’s bigger ambitions require bigger resources for the African Development Bank. A stronger and better-capitalized African Development Bank is indispensable to help deliver on the Compact with Africa and efforts to revive Africa’s economies.

Let’s work together to create better hope for Africa’s rural economies. Let’s invest in Africa today and build that prosperous Africa. Let’s together give Africa the High 5s!

Thank you very much. Vielen Dank!
“Agriculture is a fundamental component in combating the causes of rural flight and must be given much more consideration in security-policy concepts in the future. We need strong rural spaces and we need strong agriculture. If we achieve that, then a world without hunger is truly achievable.”

Dr. Onko Aeikens, State Secretary in the German Ministry for Food and Agriculture
Ladies and gentlemen,

Hunger is the world’s greatest solvable problem. For the last few weeks and months, Berlin has been covered in posters from the United Nations proclaiming that message. And if we are able to be self-critical, we have indeed not been proactive enough in the fight against hunger. But there is justifiable hope that we will be able to win the fight against hunger in the future. We need more than words though for that to happen. We need resolve and commitment from the entire community of nations. Agenda 2030 with its Sustainable Development Goals did more than simply fire the starting gun for the fight against hunger. It is a contract with the future: A future for our children, our children’s children and for all humankind. That is the goal, in plain and simple terms.

If we want to combat hunger we have to first invest in agriculture. Agriculture is the key to world food security. It is the key to creating prospects and wealth in rural areas. This goes well beyond basic cultivation of crops and produce. Both the downstream and upstream processes offer numerous opportunities for value creation. If done right, whole regions can experience economic growth and income growth. Of course, sadly, the reality looks rather different at this point. That is a result of development policies which largely left the rural world and agriculture out of the equation for too long. Three out of every four people living in hunger across the world are small-scale farmers, livestock farmers or farm labourers. In other words, people in precisely those places where food should be available. It is little wonder, then, that so many people move from the country to the city. Particularly for young people, cities promise a better living, better access to education, better participation, and a better life. We have seen the phenomenon so many times. Hunger travels to the cities with them. The swiftly expanding populations in the cities combined with inadequate availability of and access to food is a growing and dangerous breeding ground for social and political instability. And, ladies and gentlemen, a majority of humankind still spends the vast majority of their income on food. In Germany, people spend just over 10% of their income on food. When food prices go up, many people find it almost impossible to feed their families properly.
Social upheaval, political unrest and violent conflicts can arise when people lack food, life prospects and access to resources essential to survival. Strong agriculture locally can ensure a rapidly rising population is still fed. And it can improve people’s living conditions. Strengthening agriculture is therefore an effective tool for opening up economic prospects and also addressing both the rural exodus at national level and international migration flows. At the same time, investment in agriculture can increase the quality and quantity of production. For instance, the quantity of locally available food can be increased, import dependency reduced, and food security in both urban and rural areas improved.

According to a World Bank study, investments in agriculture make a greater contribution to food security and social development than investment in any other sector of a given national economy. It is significant in that regard, therefore, that today’s conference “One World – No Hunger” and the Berlin Charter place the rural world at the forefront of our attention. This connects seamlessly with the G20 meeting of agriculture ministers which took place here in Berlin in January. We focused on two central challenges for rural areas which are also picked up in the Charter.

1. **Protection of natural resources to ensure agriculture remains a viable option into the future, and thus the central basis for income generation in rural areas is preserved.**

2. **Access to digital innovation so that people in rural areas can also participate in growing prosperity.**
At the G20 meeting of agricultural ministers we devoted much of our deliberations to that key resource, water. The OECD predicts that in the year 2025 around 1.8 billion people will live in regions that are suffering from water shortages as a result of climate change, population growth or the inefficient use of available resources. This is also of course an acute threat to food security. Without water there is no food production. The G20 agriculture ministers, with that reality in mind, also made a commitment to the sustainable use of water in agriculture. In future for example we intend to support the exchange of information, innovation and knowledge in the interests of sustainable water and soil management. We want to make agriculture more resistant to stress factors such as periods of drought, putting a greater priority for instance on breeding research. We also plan to help with a package of measures to keep our water clean and improve its quality.

Ladies and gentlemen, extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding have been around for millennia. But the frequency of these events is increasing, which tells us that climate change is already happening. Targeted agricultural research that increases agricultural productivity, but only whilst also addressing the problem of an increasing water shortage as a result of climate change, can make important contributions.
Now is the time for us to set the course to prevent future consequences of climate change that may prove uncontrollable. We have to make agriculture more resistant. Seed research, for example research into stress-tolerant crops, has already had very promising results. Research institutes attached to our ministry are already working on the development of resilient varieties and climate-smart agriculture systems. At the same time we must also take the limiting factors into consideration. Not every plant can, or indeed should, be planted in every location. Site-specific considerations must be taken more seriously into account.

When designing the innovative, modern agricultural sector we envisage, mechanisation and digital technology are both increasingly key. Modern technologies do not just lead to enhanced productivity, they also – when used appropriately – can help protect the environment, since resources can be used more efficiently. Agriculture 4.0 that puts technology to work, for instance by irrigating precisely where needed, can really move us forward in this endeavour. Digitally controlled processes run more precisely and so save on inputs. A whole range of new technologies are being adopted in agriculture under the banner of precision farming. The former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan wrote an article in December 2015 in Foreign Affairs in which he described the benefits that could accrue in particular to small farmers in Africa as a result of increased use of digital technology. A large part of this was developing better digital access in rural areas. This is the only way we can help enthuse many young people for work in the agricultural sector and offer them more interesting job opportunities.
Ladies and gentlemen, you reap what you sow, and if you can reap, you will remain. Agriculture is a fundamental component in combating the causes of rural flight and must be given much more consideration in security-policy concepts in the future. We need strong rural spaces and we need strong agriculture. If we achieve that, then a world without hunger is truly achievable. Thank you for listening.
The exodus particularly of young people to urban centres, and the structural changes in the rural areas that go hand in hand with that trend, is not just a problem in developing countries and emerging economies. Together the participants worked hard to prepare for the G20 conference and to identify solutions and ideas that make rural spaces attractive to young people now and in the future.

Using five successful initiatives as case studies, these representatives of the younger generation showed their great potential right from the start of the first day of the conference. They presented their own solutions and confidently called on politicians to create the conditions in which these can become reality.

“We are not talking about young people from rural areas at this conference, we are talking with them. They have come to us from all over the world with a clear message: The youth of today believe in rural areas – creatively, innovatively and as founders.”

German Development Minister, Dr. Gerd Müller
To create more jobs it needs funding and capacity building. I have realized that a lot of young people really want to create jobs, but they lack money and they also lack the knowledge.”

Nana Amponsah, Founder of GuzaKuza and President of Direct Impact Foundation, Ghana

They included Paulina Selepe from Lesotho. As General Secretary of the Lesotho National Farmers Union, she gives a political voice to 30,000 farmers. At the conference, she demanded that young people be taken seriously and respected, even when they are asking for help. “We know what we are doing. Don’t forget that.”

Krishna Govindasamy shared that view. He created the Best Toilet of the Year Contest in India. Under the motto, “Your home is not complete without a toilet”, he convinced primarily young, innovative Indians of the
need for proper sanitary solutions. He called on politicians in Berlin not to take hygiene and health for granted.

Modeste Dayato from Benin also called for more political attention as he advocated for better access to information and communication technologies for farmers in rural areas. As the founder of the poultry operation AGRI-Défi Production, he said his mobile phone has become his most important tool.

Julia Wäger from Germany also called for change. She is the desk officer for international development at the Catholic Rural Youth Movement and advocated for fair trade and food sovereignty. During the on-stage discussion, she explained how the international community needed to be operating the economy in a more ecological and socially sustainable way than they have been up to now.

Social sustainability goes hand in hand with strengthening and involving the young rural population, according to Alfousseni Sidibé from Mali. As the founder of the start-up Live Your Dream, he offers training for new entrepreneurs.

“I think it is very important to exchange knowledge about the agricultural structures of other countries in order to develop my own country.”
Alfousseni Sidibé, Founder of the Start-Up “Live Your Dream”, Mali
At the end of their presentations and on behalf of the younger generation, the young people presented German Development Minister, Dr. Gerd Müller, with a number of core demands which they had developed in the Rural Future Lab prior to the conference.

- Schooling for all
- More opportunities for training for young entrepreneurs
- Better access to micro-financing
- Promotion of local innovations
- Development of city-rural partnerships
- Empowerment and participation
- Better inclusion of the young generation in political decisions

Early childhood education and promotion of young girls and women should be a particular focus.

Training is a fundamental prerequisite for strong rural areas, ideally connecting traditional knowledge with modern knowledge. Education needs to be accessible, affordable and practice-oriented.

“More young people need to learn how to employ themselves. They need businesses that generate income for themselves and others.”

Lunah Njeri,
Sales Manager at Bell Industries
and founder of Dudu Farm, Kenya
THE RURAL FUTURE LAB

The topic of rural youth employment was one of the focuses of the G20 Conference “ONE WORLD – No Hunger”. In Africa alone, some 440 million more young people will be jostling to enter the labour market by 2030, most of them in rural areas.

There was an extensive process to incorporate young people from rural areas of African countries, G20 countries and Germany in the run-up to the international conference. Overall, more than 130 young people aged between 18 and 25 then accepted our invitation and also attended the main conference.

The starting point in preparation of the conference was an SMS-based survey of 10,000 young Africans on future prospects, visions and values for the youth of Africa in rural areas.

30 African young adults from rural sub-Saharan Africa gathered for a workshop at the end of March 2017 to discuss the results of the mobile survey and also discuss the draft of the Berlin Charter which would provide the foundation for discussions at the main “ONE WORLD – No Hunger” conference.

And then, in the direct run-up to the conference, the Rural Future Lab met from 24 to 26 April in Berlin. The 30 young adults from Africa were joined by another 100 young adults active in rural areas in African countries, Germany and G20 countries. They networked successfully and developed core messages for the G20 conference. Many innovative, specific ideas from rural areas for rural areas were presented. From the “Taste of Heimat” association that works toward the establishment of food policy councils in Germany, to RECO, a Ugandan organisation promoting sustainable agriculture, and the first Impact Hub in francophone Africa.

The programme included excursions to innovative operations in the rural region of Brandenburg. Whether at an asparagus farm, aquaponics farm or biogas plant, the young adults learned about locally adapted and sustainable options as well as conventional operations, which join to make the Berlin outskirts and Brandenburg such an attractive place to live and work. The excursion day also provided insights into successful concepts for how to strengthen urban-rural connections, such as cultural tourism at Schloss Ribbeck or awareness-building among city children through agricultural activities at the ‘Gemüseackerdemie’ (vegetable plot-based learning).
“We are making use of locally available resources.”

Luwayo Biswick, Agriculturist and Permaculture Trainer at Kusmala Institute of Agriculture & Ecology, Malawi
Another core demand is that access for funding, primarily micro-financing, should be improved. For this to happen there needs to be a stable market with healthy competition and better distribution of financial resources. Agriculture must be increasingly seen as a market for private investment. More expertise and training is necessary in this area.

The same is true of local innovations. New technologies, combined with traditional knowledge, can increase local production, provide new marketing options and reveal innovative funding sources. It is important to the younger generation for these technologies to be sustainable and adapted to local conditions. Progress can no longer be allowed to take place only in the urban centres.

The young adults also advocated strongly for greater urban-rural connections. Functioning infrastructure should ensure that the products from rural areas reach urban markets. The development of direct marketing is for many the key to breaking free from dependence on large-scale producers and price pressures, and thus the key to a good income. The prerequisite for any of these solutions and demands from the young adults is better participation in the political process.

“To create more jobs, young people need to be more job creators, and not job seekers.”

Lydia Florence, Farm Manager and Co-owner of a dairy farm, Kenya
MARKET OF OPPORTUNITIES – MORE THAN JUST IDEAS

Some of the young entrepreneurs presented their products and success stories at the conference.

“By processing organic pineapple into organic juice I can generate higher profits. The organic production and the used glass bottles are sustainable. The processing into juice creates additional jobs and is in line with market trends. I have more than ten years of experience and knowledge which I am happy to pass on to my seven employees.”

Thierry Bossavi,
Founder of the fruit processing firm “Centre Agrofils d’un jour”, Benin

“I use the social media like Facebook to promote my fashion online. This is how I address the right client base and minimise marketing costs. At Nahêni there work only women. The production of traditional and yet modern clothes provides them with income.”

Ayoko Loké Gabiam,
Co-founder of the fashion label “Nahêni”, Togo
“We need to start thinking now about how we can work efficiently and ecologically sustainable at the same time. That is why I advise beekeepers and promote ecological apiculture, which is still disputed in some places. Our environment will only serve the next generations’ needs if we act now.”

Yemesrach Tadesse, 
Founder of the NGO “Action4Words”, 
Ethiopia

“I have trained 75 people and employed some of them. We process overripe mangoes to dried fruit for the local market and export by using solar energy. This way I fight several problems at the same time: Unemployment, food waste and environmental impact.”

Paul Zaake, 
Co-founder and Managing Director at Rakai Environmental Conservation Program (RECO), Uganda

“My enterprise for the transformation of rice and fonio uses modern technology which makes it the most progressed company of its kind in Mali. We employ women, particularly widows and young women who do not have any other perspectives. In order to meet the rising demand for my products both nationally and abroad, I plan to reinforce our capacity of production.”

Halatou Dem, 
Managing Director at grain processing firm “Danaya Céréales”, Mali
IMPRESSIONS FROM THE RURAL FUTURE LAB
RURAL FUTURE IN FIGURES
Mobile SMS survey of 10,000 young people in Africa

Rural transformation in full swing
45% of young rural population move between village and city

Striking lack of employment
Three quarters of young people in rural areas have difficulty finding a job there.

To stay or to go?
More than half of young people are still undecided. Many would definitely stay if the economic or social situation in the rural areas improved significantly.

It depends on conditions
Want to move to city
Stay in village
Agriculture more attractive than assumed

Agriculture is one of the most attractive employment goals for young people and this can serve to modernize the rural areas.

Three improvements for attractive rural spaces?

Young people’s top recommendations:
- Jobs
- Education
- Infrastructure

THE SMS-BASED SURVEY

- Responses from 10,000 young people in rural areas of 21 African countries
- Age and gender: 18 to 35 years old; 50% female, 50% male
- Different groups (students, self-employed, employees, farmers)
- Data collected February-March 2017
- No cost to participate; bonus SMS credit awarded as an incentive
- Data protection: Geopoll who carried out the survey did not retain any telephone numbers or other information that would allow participants to be identified
- Commissioned by the BMZ
Attractivity factors

To be attractive, agriculture must pay off, and make investments and the use of technologies possible.

Overall, more openness to new technology on the job.

For over 90%, new technology is important or very important.

**RURAL FUTURE IN FIGURES**

*Mobile SMS survey of 10,000 young people in Africa*
Family and tradition

88% of all surveyed feel family ties and traditional values are important or very important.

Optimism wins

93% of young people expect a big improvement in their lives in five years. Optimism is the most important capital for the future of rural areas in Africa.
EINEWELT ohne Hunger ist möglich | Die Stimme der Jugend auf der G20-Konferenz: Das Rural Future Lab
Late in the afternoon of the first day of the conference, all attention turned to the G20, the group of the 19 major industrialised and emerging countries plus the European Union. Rural youth employment is one of the central development policy focuses of Germany’s 2017 presidency of the G20 because many young people still lack access to the economic and social development opportunities they need to build a life of dignity. This is particularly true in rural areas.

The G20 can make an important contribution here to tackling these important and current challenges. With the particular focus on Africa, the issue of youth employment is also a key component in the new G20 Africa partnership. Positive developments in this area also contribute to the implementation of the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda, the G20’s roadmap for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The panel discussion focused on questions such as: What importance do representatives of the G20 ascribe to the development of rural areas in developing countries? What can the G20 do, and with what partners can they work, to promote youth employment in rural areas?

“Industrialised countries helped in the development of Asia. Now it’s Africa’s turn.”

Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

To shine a light on the role of the G20 from different perspectives, the panel discussion brought together five figures from politics, civil society and academia from different countries.
“Rural youth employment and the particular focus on the African continent is a central development policy priority of Germany’s G20 presidency. Attractive economic and social prospects for the future must be created for more and more young people in rural regions of Africa. In particular it is crucial that we make available a greater number of productive work, income and training opportunities. This will secure sustainable rural development and political stability for the long term and combat the root causes of forced migration.

If fair trade is limited to how small farmers cultivate coffee beans, but those beans are not even roasted in Africa then that’s just not enough value creation.”

Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
“The large number of young people in Africa represents a tremendous creative and entrepreneurial potential. In order to seize this potential, the G20 countries should promote youth entrepreneurship and vocational education and training in Africa. This can help to also make it more attractive again for young people to work in the agricultural sector.

Young Africans are the owners of the continent. There is a huge need to ensure that young people are at the centre of policy making and driving development. This German G20 presidency cannot be less ambitious.”

Nachilalo Nkombo, Interim Africa Executive Director, ONE International

“In China, higher agricultural productivity spurred rural development and ultimately resulted in the emergence of rural industries. Research and technology transfer were important components for development and could have the same impact in other regions of the world.

Not only the economic gains from a job are important for the decision whether to stay in rural areas, there are also complicated social and cultural aspects involved.”

Professor Xiaoyun Li, Dean of the College of Humanities and Development, China Agricultural University, Beijing

“Youth employment is especially important for rural development. From an Indian perspective, we need to invest mainly in rural infrastructure and the expansion of digital networks. Introducing more diversity into living conditions in rural areas, for instance by providing access to microfinance, is one of the most efficient ways to reduce rural poverty.

Youth in rural areas and their employment opportunities hold the key to a more sustainable and developed world.”

Amarjeet Sinha, Secretary at the Ministry of Rural Development, India
All of the panellists agreed that the G20 countries have an important role to play. They can give a clear political impetus to the topic and proceed with specific action to create better prospects for youth in rural areas.

The discussion also showed that G20 partnerships that bring together differing players from politics, industry, civil society and academia are all necessary to effect change. The diversity of the G20 states was seen as a particular opportunity, specifically with regard to their different perspectives on, and experience of, rural youth employment. For instance, countries from the group could work in South-South or triangular cooperation arrangements with African partners to develop and realise tailored activities.

The Parliamentary State Secretary, Thomas Silberhorn, emphasised that all G20 countries and partners are invited to help shape the new partnership with Africa. He was calling particularly here on China and India who, through their own experiences, could make direct contributions to identifying ways in which Africa could reduce rural poverty.
Creating Opportunities with the Young Generation in the Rural World

Berlin Charter

Final Version
April 27, 2017
The Berlin Charter sets out a modern manifesto for forward-looking and innovative rural development. Under the heading “Creating opportunities with the young generation in the rural world” the Charter highlights worldwide trends, challenges and opportunities for rural areas at a time of globalisation and urbanisation, and gives the young generation a voice.

RURAL AREAS AS SPACES OF THE FUTURE

By 2050 it is anticipated that there will be more than nine billion people living on the Earth. Sustainable rural development is the only way to supply all of these people with sufficient, nutritious food. Many young people are looking for a better life. For their sakes, the rural regions need to offer real prospects. That does not just mean income and decent work. It also means education, health, energy, clean water, intact ecosystems, modern infrastructure, mobility, information and communication technologies, functioning administrations and cultural offerings. It is all those aspects that will make life in rural areas attractive.

CHARTER PROCESS AND PRESENTATION TO THE MINISTER

The Charter was drafted by a team of international, independent experts under the leadership of Professor Joachim von Braun (Center for Development Research, Bonn) and Dr Agnes Kalibata (President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa). This process, which lasted several months, involved experts from academia, civil society, the private sector and the development community, as well as a good number of young people. The draft was also made available for public comment in an online consultation process. In March and April 2017 at Rural Future Lab, around 130 young adults from all over the world developed their vision and ideas for the future of rural spaces and incorporated that into the Charter process.

The document was then discussed and amended in six themed forums by around 800 participants. Finally, the leaders of the expert groups handed over the Berlin Charter to Dr. Gerd Müller, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, on behalf of all involved.
A POLITICAL COMMITMENT

The Berlin Charter calls on decision-makers all over the world to do all within their power for rural development in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda. It also calls on the G20 states:

- to lift at least 600 million people out of hunger and malnutrition by 2025;
- to immediately bring an end to the food crisis situations in East Africa and the Horn of Africa through concerted political and humanitarian action;
- to enable all young people in rural areas to gain access to education and training by 2025;
- to halve youth unemployment in rural areas by 2025;
- to provide equitable and affordable access to information and communication technologies for all.

The Charter also directs demands to governments across the world, the private sector, civil society and development and finance institutions.

The document
The Berlin Charter is available online at www.bmz.de/Berlin-Charter
THE ROAD TO THE BERLIN CHARTER

**KICK-OFF**
- 01/2017
  - Charter Draft Version
  - by independent Charter Advisory Committee
  - **Chairs:**
    - Prof. Joachim von Braun,
    - Dr. Agnes Kalibata

**CONSULTATION AND CONSOLIDATION**
- 02/2017
  - Public Online Consultation
    - Draft commented on by civil society, private sector, individuals, development partners
  - **Discussions and Reflections**
    - with stakeholder groups on food security and rural development
    - with international and German youth representatives

**FINALIZATION**
- 03/2017
  - Validation of Charter
  - Official handover to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
- 04/2017
**VOICES FROM THE CHARTER PROCESS**

“**I love the dissemination of the charter, to really lift people out of poverty. We are just one human race – and we cannot leave anyone behind.**”  
*Dr Mo Ibrahim,*  
*Entrepreneur and founder of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, United Kingdom*

“For me, it was very important that we open up spaces for civil society organisations again for political decision making. Because we saw that the space for them to work and the freedom has been limited a lot, especially in Africa, also in India. And civil society is very important to express the needs of the poorest population - the rural population. So they need to have granted their rights to speak up and also act as political actors.”  
*Dr Ilona Auer Frege,*  
*Director Misereor Berlin, Germany*

“From my point of view, one of the most important result of the Charter is that it puts upfront the need to invest further in development strategies and to go beyond the rural-urban divide through the promotion of territorial approaches.”  
*Bruno Losch,*  
*CIRAD, France, Co-Director GovInn, University of Western Cape, South Africa*

“Do not plan the future for us young people, but plan it with us.”  
*Alfousseni Sidibé,*  
*Young entrepreneur and participant at “Rural Future Lab”, Mali*
“Nutrition and social protection are basic components for development. To be able to deliver on these, we have to consider addressing issues beyond nutrition. Some examples are water and sanitation services and providing child care facilities for working mothers. And finding alternative livelihoods in, for example, ecosystem services.”

Prof Sheryl Hendriks,
Institute for Food, Nutrition and Well-being,
University of Pretoria

“Nutrition and social protection are basic components for development. To be able to deliver on these, we have to consider addressing issues beyond nutrition. Some examples are water and sanitation services and providing child care facilities for working mothers. And finding alternative livelihoods in, for example, ecosystem services.”

Prof Sheryl Hendriks,
Institute for Food, Nutrition and Well-being,
University of Pretoria

“For me, the most important result: We need sustainable landscapes. There are two main perspectives: the environment challenge – biodiversity, soil diversity – and the challenge of creating jobs for young people.”

Prof Klaus Töpfer,
Director ThinkTank for Sustainability

“We want infrastructure for transformational change, linking urban centres with rural areas. But in both ways: Not just supplying urban centres, but also having urban areas provide incentives for rural areas to be able to grow.”

Dr Ousmane Badiane,
Africa Director IFPRI

“The youth must not wait for the government. They have to become entrepreneurs who use their own resources.”

Ayoko Loké Gabiam,
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“One World – No Hunger | The Berlin Charter

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“One World – No Hunger | The Berlin Charter
“JOBS, JOBS, JOBS. BUT WHO DOES WHAT?”

Panel discussion on 27 April 2017

Five high-ranking conference participants joined a panel entitled “Jobs, Jobs, Jobs” to discuss one core issue in particular: Who is taking responsibility for moving towards more jobs in rural areas?

All of the panellists agreed that jobs are mainly created by small and medium-sized enterprises. Equally they agreed that policymakers need to support the private sector by creating a good enabling environment. The conditions required by such an environment include legal certainty, infrastructure and respect for human rights, but also good training opportunities for young people at all levels. Companies need to be able to draw on well trained employees locally. This is where international cooperation can provide support. Ultimately, though, the responsibility lies with the political leaders and people of the respective countries.

DAGMAR WÖHRL

Member of the German Parliament and Chair of the Committee for Economic Cooperation and Development

“Rural development was a much neglected issue for many years, but it is now very much an issue for the future. Rural development is necessary to create prospects for young people for the future. The private sector has a very important role to play here. But before an entrepreneur will invest, the enabling conditions have to be right. International cooperation can support reform-ready governments on the ground by enabling them to create the right conditions for private-sector investment.

I am not talking about promoting investments by the big players. Above all what is needed is diversification through small and medium-sized local start-ups. If the conditions are right, young people can start their own businesses and create jobs right where they are. We would like also to motivate more smaller and medium-sized businesses in Germany to invest increasingly in Africa. Only around three per cent of all German direct investment currently finds its way to Africa. It is important for value creation to occur locally. At the moment, it is mostly primary goods that are exported and processing takes place in industrial countries. This has to

“The economy is powered by the private sector and it is there that jobs are generated. But private sector investments are only forthcoming when the conditions are right and there is a source of skilled labour locally.”
change. Value creation from farm to table must take place in Africa. The German government supports this goal for instance in its support for 14 Green Innovation centres.

Another focal area of Germany’s international cooperation is vocational training, which we promote worldwide currently through around 63 vocational training centres.”

**DR MO IBRAHIM**

Entrepreneur and founder of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, United Kingdom

“By promoting sound governance we are also fostering investment. Nobody will invest in a country where legal certainty is not guaranteed, where workers lack training, where electricity and roads are lacking, where goods are held up in ports, where you have social conflicts and wars. But sound governance plays an important role in the private sector, too, for instance in terms of transparency and fighting corruption and tax evasion. African policymakers and citizens need to take ownership of this task and create the right enabling environment themselves. Because nobody will come and do this job for them. Many governments in Africa already have good or very good levels of good governance, but unfortunately the focus is often on the bad apples.

We currently see a lot of migration from rural areas into urban centres. Rural areas often lack electricity, cultural activities, health services – of course young people move away. Policymakers need to do more to promote rural areas. However, they mostly focus on short-term fixes since voters are more concerned with the present. People in cities can easily cause a stir and harm politics. This is not really an option in most rural areas.

“Here is the problem: Rural sector is not sexy. It is not interesting for young people. There is no television. No mobile phones. No lights. No power. No cinema. No football. Nothing is there. Will you go and live in a place like this?”
Economic diversity is especially important when it comes to employment promotion. Nigeria is a good example. Before oil was discovered, Nigeria was a food exporting country. During the oil rush, support for the agricultural sector diminished to almost nothing; today the country is a net importer of food. Because of the oil price crisis, however, it does not have the necessary funds to import food. Data shows that there is no correlation between GDP growth and employment in Africa. Extracting ores, mineral oil and gas does not create jobs."

“Human beings are entrepreneurs. They are packed with unlimited creative capacity. Unleash the creative capacity! That can be done only by the creation of financial institutions which address the needs of the poor.”

Microcredits such as the ones granted by the social fund of the Grameen Bank are a way of unleashing the creativity of young people. There are now roughly 300 million recipients of microcredits worldwide, most of whom are poor and female. Many of them cannot read or write and have never left their village. But when they have the money, they set up their own business, breeding chicken, growing vegetables, sewing and selling their products on the market.

Unfortunately, the financial system is not geared to the needs of the poor. The majority of the 300 million microcredits were issued by non-governmental organisations. That means that we need more banks that are geared to the needs of the poor and work as social enterprises. If we want to achieve new goals we cannot do it by using old paths. In order to make the agricul-

**PROF MUHAMMAD YUNUS**

*Founder of Grameen Bank and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Bangladesh*

“44 million young people enter the labour market every year. These are 44 million potential entrepreneurs with tremendous ideas. They need capital to turn their ideas into action. Job seekers can then become job creators. But sadly, no bank in the world will make an effort to fund a young person who may have an excellent business idea but absolutely no working experience.”
which they are unable to implement because they lack the necessary resources. We need to enable these young entrepreneurs so that they can turn their ideas into action and create jobs. In all of this, international cooperation must not leave behind those whose governments may not meet the required level of good governance. Because that is how poor conditions become entrenched and cycles, perpetuated. And in the end, this affects us all.


**TONY O. ELUMELU**

*Entrepreneur, Chairman of Heirs Holdings and Founder of the Tony Elumelu Foundation, Nigeria*

“The issue of youth unemployment is an absolute priority for Africa right now. However, Africans need to solve this problem themselves. The private sector can create the necessary jobs, but it needs the right conditions. The German government’s Marshall Plan with Africa is a good idea, but Africans must be in the driver’s seat.

Africa has an incredibly huge number of qualified, creative and ambitious young people full of business ideas..."
turn down many thousands of young people every year – last year alone we turned down 92,000. Africa will not progress unless we – international cooperation, philanthropists, politicians and business leaders – come together to help these young people.

Africa lends itself to investment for a variety of reasons: due to climate change, parts of the African continent could develop into a new breadbasket for the world. In addition, there is a lot of agricultural land which can be re-activated for production, particularly in the South African region, but also in Eastern Europe and Asia. However, appropriate conditions are needed for these investments and thus for the creation of jobs. This also applies to the investment decisions of our company, e.g. in South Africa or Zambia, for which predictability and reliability are required.

There is a need for well-educated young people and innovative technologies to solve the problem and to secure the world’s food. Together with our local partners and at their request, we also form on-site and have already invited the first local colleagues to our Bavarian headquarters. This exchange is a great success – not only do our guests expand their knowledge of technology and business, but also we ourselves learn a lot about culture and how we can work and live together well.

In addition, together with RWA RaiffeisenWare Austria, we have founded the innovation platform Agro Innovation Lab, which promotes young innovative entrepreneurs worldwide.”

“Self-help, self-organization and self-management are an approach to problem solving. Cooperatives as part of the social market economy could make a great contribution.”
Private sector, scientific, civil society and international development organisations will present their groundbreaking, practical and outcome-oriented initiatives for promoting rural areas and (youth) employment in a series of parallel expert panel discussions.

1. Green Innovation Centres: boosting sustainable agricultural production and food security

**ORGANIZATION**
- Andreas Hermes Akademie
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

**TEASER**
Sustainable agriculture depends on innovations! But what conditions must be met for their dissemination?

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
- Jacob Ouédraogo, Minister for Agriculture and Water, Burkina Faso
- Andreas Proksch, Head of division, GIZ
- Django Cissé, Entrepreneur, Mali
- Dr Andreas Quiring, Managing Director, AHA
2. **Sound investments in rural innovations: restoring nature’s assets for sustainable development**

**ORGANIZATION**
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- German Institute for Human Rights
- Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)
- World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
- International Union for the Conversation of Nature (IUCN)
- TMG - ThinkTank for Sustainability

**TEASER**
Landscape restoration contributes to thriving rural economies, resilient agricultural development, and the mitigation of climate change. Distinguished speakers emphasize investment opportunities in local innovations to make these multiple benefits come about.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
- **Jacob Ouédraogo**, Minister for Agriculture and Water, Burkina Faso
- **Prof Dr Tony Simons**, Director General, ICRAF
- **Alexander Müller**, Director, TMG
- **Christel Weller-Monlongua**, Head of Department, GIZ
- **Nkiruka Nnaemego**, Fresh & Young Brains Development Initiative, Nigeria

3. **Making farming a business: securing income, attracting youth, empowering rural areas**

**ORGANIZATION**
- German Agribusiness Alliance
- German-African Business Association
- German Asia-Pacific Business Association

**TEASER**
The panel discussion with international guests will focus on successful examples for advancing agriculture through professionalizing farming: Which policies are needed to support agriculture’s enabling environment? And which role can the private sector play?

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
- **Fatma Ben Rejeb**, CEO, Pan-African Farmers Organization (PAFO)
- **Agatha Wamuyu Thuo**, Nyandarua County Executive Committee Member of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya
- **Mareike Brandt**, Project Manager Africa, Business Development Agri-Services, BayWa AG
- **Dr Thomas Duve**, Director of Department South Africa and Regional Funds, KfW Development Bank; Chairman of the Board of Directors of Africa Agriculture and Trade Investment Fund (AATIF)
- **Torsten Spill**, Co-Chairman, German Agribusiness Alliance
### 4. Rural investment: How can we boost employment – especially for the young generation?

**ORGANIZATION**
- KfW Development Bank
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

**TEASER**
How does investment in rural areas help to create jobs? Which measures contribute to sustainable employment? How can we generate job opportunities for the young generation? Practitioners and experts discuss about successful approaches.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
- Rui Benfica, Lead Economist, IFAD
- Michael Wehinger, Head Department West Africa, KfW
- Jean-Luc François, Head of Division Agriculture, Rural Development and Biodiversity, AFD

### 5. Educate, employ, empower – How female “agripreneurs” will help harness the demographic Dividend

**ORGANIZATION**
- ONE Germany
- Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)

**TEASER**
Africa’s population is set to double by 2050. To harness the full potential of this “peak youth”, Africa needs to create jobs and provide targeted education and channels for participation to this generation – especially to women, and especially in the rural space. This panel will explore the potential and challenges of enabling female farmers to be “agripreneurs”.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
- Zouera Youssoufou, CEO, Dangote Foundation
- Nichola Dyer, Program Manager, GAFSP
- Nachilala Nkombo, Africa Executive Director (Interim), ONE
- Stephan Exo-Kreischer, Director, ONE Germany
6. Policies in support of youth entrepreneurship in African agriculture

**ORGANIZATION**

The Malabo Montpellier Panel

The Panel is facilitated by:

• International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

• Imperial College London

• Bonn University

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**TEASER**

This high-level panel argues that Africa needs a thriving entrepreneurial sector that provides rural people, especially youth and women, with the right conditions to harness their entrepreneurial skills and ambition. The panel will focus on how to achieve this.

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**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**

Prof Dr Joachim von Braun,
Director Department of Economic and Technological Change, Center for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn

Dr Ousmane Badiane,
Africa Director, IFPRI

Nachilala Nkombo,
Africa Executive Director (Interim), ONE

Dr Agnes Kalibata,
President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

Dr Debisi Araba, Africa Director,
International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

Dr Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg,
Director, African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)

Pro Noble Banadda,
Professor of Agricultural and Bio Systems Engineering, Makerere University
7. From research to practice: innovations of international agricultural research for rural futures

**ORGANIZATION**
Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe)
University of Hohenheim

**TEASER**
International agricultural research centres around the world develop innovations with farmers and other stakeholders in order to upgrade agricultural production systems. Directors of several research centres will speak about their work, challenges and potentials.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
Dr Shenggen Fan,
Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
Dr Segenet Kelemu,
Director General, icipe
Prof Dr Martin Kropff, Director General, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
Dr Stefan Schmitz,
Officer for the special initiative “One World, No Hunger”, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Prof Dr Tony Simons,
Director General, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
Kwesi Atta-Krah, Director International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
Gerd Fleischer,
Group leader Agricultural Innovations and Sustainability Standards, GIZ

8. Rural employment and food security – a territorial approach

**ORGANIZATION**
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency
OECD Development Centre (DEV) and OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship (CFE)

**TEASER**
This expert panel brings together Ministers from Africa and representatives from the OECD, NEPAD, and FAO to discuss the role of territorial approaches for promoting employment and food security in rural areas in Africa.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
Dr Hélène Bali Némé,
Secretary General, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEH), Togo
Jacob Ouédraogo,
Minister for Agriculture and Water, Burkina Faso
Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki,
CEO, NEPAD Agency
Federico Bonaglia,
Deputy Director, OECD Development Centre
Rob Vos,
Director Division, Agricultural Development Economics, FAO
9. Decent jobs for youth in the rural economy

**ORGANIZATION**
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (Cirad)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**TEASER**
Panel discussion on country level support for youth employment, with the participation of the BMGF, Cirad, FAO, ILO and USAID, focusing on synergies between the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth and the G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
Dr Louise Fox,
Chief Economist, USAID
Dr Peter Wobst,
Senior Programme Advisor, FAO
Dr Bruno Losch,
Co-director, Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation (GovInn), South Africa; lead political economist, Cirad
Nick Austin,
Director, Agricultural Development, BMGF
Susana Puerto,
Senior Youth Employment Specialist, ILO

10. Beyond talk: putting private capital to work for the future of agriculture

**ORGANIZATION**
Global Crop Diversity Trust

**TEASER**
Germany’s “One World – No hunger” moves us towards a more food-secure future. There are however limits to what can or should be done by governments. The Expert Panel discusses concrete initiatives on how to engage private capital for sustainable agriculture.

**HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE**
Vincent Bradley,
former CEO, FlashFunders
Klaus Runow,
Managing Director, Deutsche Asset Management
Jane Ambachtsheer,
Partner and Global Head of Responsible Investment, Mercer
Atsuko Toda,
Director for Agricultural Finance and Rural Development, African Development Bank (AfDB)
Juan Esteban Orduz,
President, Colombian Coffee Growers Federation, North America
EINE WELT ohne Hunger ist möglich
The state of nutrition worldwide is alarming: an approximate 793 million people do not have enough to eat each day. Malnutrition is still the main cause of childhood deaths. At the same time, around 600 million people today worldwide are obese. And then we add in droughts and famines, such as the one currently hitting the Horn of Africa, South Sudan and Yemen, where around 20 million people are under acute threat of hunger.

“How do we get to One World without hunger? How can it be possible that small farming operations provide over 80 per cent of food in developing countries, but they also make up the large majority of the poorest and hungriest population groups in the world? How can existing hunger be eliminated quickly and the human right to food be realised without burdening the environment unduly? What contribution can be made to sustainably securing a world food supply by ecological farming techniques and new agricultural technologies?”

Bärbel Dieckmann, President, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe
“Yet we know that young women and men are abandoning agriculture and moving out of rural areas at rates that warrant the use of the world “exodus”. The average age of farmers worldwide is 60, a shocking statistic that signals an immediate need to attract innovative motivated young people into the agricultural sector.”

Kanayo Nwanze, 
Former President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

“Food is a question of the survival of humankind, and the answer to it will be provided in the rural areas of developing countries. It is time to make this needed change of approach in policymaking.”

Dr. Gerd Müller, German Development Minister

“We must transform these rural areas from zones of economic misery into zones of economic prosperity – and that can only be done through a massive transformation of the agricultural sector.”

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, 
President of the African Development Bank
“Malnutrition traps communities and countries in cycles of poverty. Good nutrition is critical to the health and well-being of women, which in turn is fundamental to them realizing their full potential.”

Melinda Gates,
Founder of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
These are the questions raised by the authors of the book (Voices Against Hunger). The book came about at the initiative of the German minister and many voices from government and civil society, academia and those working in the field. The authors, all acknowledged experts in the field, provide a description of where things stand now, an analysis, but also flag up possible solutions in their articles which they illustrate with examples. On 28 April they, or their representatives, discussed these possible solutions live on stage.

“If you read the book you will see the road we have to take. A world without hunger is not just possible, it’s also doable,” Dr. Gerd Müller German Development Minister said, by way of introduction, and called at the same time on those present to become active together.

“We authors of course bring our very different viewpoints to what needs to be done in Africa, Asia, Latin America to solve the problem and combat hunger”, said Bärbel Dieckmann, President of Deutsche Welthungerhilfe.

As diverse as the perspectives and approaches are, the articles combine to form a call to end hunger by 2030. “We know what has to be done, now it comes down to actually doing it”, is the conclusion German Development Minister Müller draws. Overcoming hunger and securing world food supplies in the long term, he posits, is a global task which all countries in North and South, politics and society, producers and consumers, as well as the international community, must now make the focus of their attention.

This is also true of our common efforts to address the current drought and famine crisis: “We need a global crisis reaction fund that guarantees fast action from the international community”, according to Müller. The other authors also emphasised the need to act quickly and in concert.
Dr Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, Ivory Coast

Nick Austin, Director Agricultural Development, Bill Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), USA

Bärbel Dieckmann, President Welthungerhilfe, Germany

Gilbert F. Houngbo, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome

Dr Agnes Kalibata, President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Kenya

Dr Gerd Müller, Federal Minister for Development Cooperation and Development, Germany

Prof. Joachim von Braun, Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Germany
PROGRAMME

**One World – No Hunger**
**Future of the Rural World**
BERLIN 27–28 April 2017
bcc Berlin Congress Center, Alexanderstraße 11, 10178 Berlin

**THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 2017**

**08.30 AM** REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

**09.30 AM** OPENING ADDRESS: A world without hunger is possible
Dr Gerd Müller
Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

**09.50 AM** SPEECH: A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER FOR ALL
Peter Altmaier
Chief of Staff of the German Chancellery and Federal Minister for Special Tasks

**10.15 AM** WE ARE THE FUTURE OF THE RURAL WORLD!
Young people from rural areas in Africa, the G20 nations and Germany will be given the opportunity to present their startups and tell their stories

**10.35 AM** KEYNOTE: ‘High 5’ for Africa’s Future
Dr Akinwumi Adesina
President of the African Development Bank, Côte d’Ivoire

**11.00 AM** COFFEE BREAK

**11.30 AM** PANEL DISCUSSION: JOBS; JOBS; JOBS – BUT WHO DOES WHAT?
• Tony O. Elemelu, Entrepreneur and Founder of the Tony Elemelu Foundation, Nigeria
• Dr Mo Ibrahim, Entrepreneur and Founder of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, United Kingdom
• Prof Klaus Josef Lutz, CEO of the BayWa AG, Germany
• Dagmar Wöhrl, Member of the German Parliament and Chairwoman of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
• Prof Muhammad Yunus, Founder of the Grameen Bank and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Bangladesh
THURSDAY, 27 April 2017

1.00 PM  PRESENTING OF THE “BERLIN CHARTER” – A model for rural development
Dr Agnes Kalibata
President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Kenya
Prof Joachim von Braun
Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Germany

1.15 PM  LUNCH

2.30 PM  Parallel Charter Fora – CALL FOR ACTION:
How can we promote opportunities for the next generation in rural areas?
The aim of the parallel Charter expert fora is to provide a platform for discussing the implementation of
the Charter (the Call for Action). They will start with introductory contributions from high-level speakers
supplemented by the voices of youth.

1 Entrepreneurship, jobs and skills
Dr Louise Fox
Chief Economist of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), USA

2 Innovation and digital opportunities
Dr Mo Ibrahim
Entrepreneur and Founder of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, United Kingdom

3 Food security and social protection
Dr Till Wahnbaeck
CEO of Welthungerhilfe, Germany

4 Sustainable landscapes and climate resilience
Prof Klaus Töpfer
Director of ThinkTank for Sustainability (TMG) and Former Executive Director of the
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Germany

5 Infrastructure and rural-urban linkages
Dr Leonard Mizzi
Head of Unit Agricultural Development, DG Devco, European Commission, Brussels

6 Good governance, finance and funding
Dr Shenggen Fan
Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D. C.
THURSDAY, 27 April 2017

4.00 PM  COFFEE BREAK

4.30 PM  SPEECH: THE KEY TO WORLD FOOD SECURITY
Dr Onko Aeikens  
State Secretary in the German Ministry for Food and Agriculture

4.45 PM  PANEL DISCUSSION – YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS: A G20 perspective
Prof Xiaoyun Li  
Dean of the College of Humanities and Development at China Agriculture University, Beijing, China

Nachilala Nkombo  
Africa Executive Director (interim) of ONE, South Africa

Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki  
CEO of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD), South Africa

Thomas Silberhorn  
Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Amarjeet Sinha  
Secretary for Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, India

6.10 PM  FORMAL HANDOVER OF THE “BERLIN CHARTER”
to Dr Gerd Müller  
Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

6.40 PM  CLOSE OF DAY ONE FOLLOWED BY BUFFET AND DRINKS
Friday, 28 April 2017

08.30 AM REGISTRATION

09.00 AM VOICES AGAINST HUNGER

Discussion of the current famine in east Africa and presentation of “Voices against Hunger” by the book’s authors and representatives.

Dr Akinwumi Adesina
President of the African Development Bank, Côte d’Ivoire

Nick Austin
Director Agricultural Development, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), USA

Bärbel Dieckmann
President, Welthungerhilfe, Germany

Gilbert F. Houngbo
President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Rome

Dr Agnes Kalibata
President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Kenya

Dr Gerd Müller
Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Prof Joachim von Braun
Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Germany
Friday, 28 April 2017

10.00 AM  Parallel Expert Panels – PRACTICAL EXAMPLES: Initiatives for promoting rural areas and employment

Private sector, scientific, civil society and international development cooperation organizations will present their groundbreaking, practical and outcome-oriented initiatives for promoting rural areas and (youth) employment in a series of parallel expert panel discussions.

1 Green Innovation Centres: boosting sustainable agricultural production and food security
- Andreas Hermes Akademie
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

2 Making farming a business: securing income, attracting youth, empowering rural areas
- German Agribusiness Alliance
- German-African Business Association
- German Asia-Pacific Business Association

3 Educate, employ, empower – How female “agripreneurs” will help harness the demographic dividend
- ONE Germany
- Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)

4 From research to practice: innovations of international agricultural research for rural futures
- Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe)
- University of Hohenheim

5 Decent jobs for youth in the rural economy
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
- French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (Cirad)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

11.20 AM  COFFEE BREAK
Friday, 28 April 2017

11.40 AM  Parallel Expert Panels – PRACTICAL EXAMPLES:
Initiatives for promoting rural areas and employment

1 Sound investments in rural innovations: restoring nature’s assets for sustainable development
   • Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
   • German Institute for Human Rights
   • Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)
   • World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
   • International Union for the Conversation of Nature (IUCN)
   • TMG - ThinkTank for Sustainability

2 Rural investment: how can we boost employment - especially for the young generation?
   • KfW Development Bank
   • International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
   • Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

3 Policies in support of youth entrepreneurship in african agriculture
   The Malabo Montpellier Panel
   The Panel is facilitated by:
   • International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
   • Imperial College London
   • Bonn University

4 Rural employment and food security – a territorial approach
   • Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
   • New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency
   • OECD Development Centre (DEV) and OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship (CFE)

5 Beyond talk: putting private capital to work for the future of agriculture
   • Global Crop Diversity Trust
Friday, 28 April 2017

10.00 AM  G20 Meeting chaired by Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
Participation by invitation only

13.00 AM  THANKS AND RECEPTION
Gunther Beger
Director General for Policy issues of development cooperation; civil society, churches and private sector; rural development in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
CALL FOR ACTION

We, participants of the Berlin conference “ONE WORLD No Hunger. Future of the Rural World”, coming from civil society, private and public sector and academia, express this call for action and encourage governments worldwide, the German Government and G20 as well as the United Nations to identify effective ways to monitor progress, facilitate implementation of these proposals and accept accountability. We underline that many actions require new partnerships between governments, civil society, private sector actors and development partners, and we structure this call for action accordingly.

Aiming for transformative change, we call on the G20 governments to commit to significant, quantified and time-bound targets in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in particular:

1. to lift at least 600 million people out of hunger and undernutrition by 2025 with appropriate agricultural, nutrition and anti-poverty policies. At the same time the malnutrition of hidden hunger affecting about two billion people because of micronutrient deficiencies is to be significantly reduced, and the investment in capacity for sound monitoring of this malnutrition by the specialised organisations be accelerated. It is noted that G7 had already made a commitment in 2015 to lift 500 million out of hunger and malnutrition; and address rising rates of overweight and obesity;

2. to take concerted political and humanitarian actions to immediately end the food crises situations in East Africa, the Horn of Africa and other locations of acute suffering; support agriculture actions that address droughts and climate change and the agenda of the African Malabo declaration on agriculture1;

3. to facilitate access to innovative education and youth training for all by 2025 by increased investments in rural education, including vocational training for young entrepreneurs;

4. to cut youth underemployment at least by half by 2025 through increased support of investment in rural infrastructure and services in rural areas combined with job creating active labour market policies at a large scale; as important measures to promote prosperity and reduce rural-urban inequality;

5. to provide equitable and affordable access for all, especially youth in rural areas, to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and provide opportunity for peer to peer learning.

1: At the Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, 2014 African Union Heads of State and Government adopted the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods.
Some key issues need to be addressed jointly by all stakeholders. Therefore, we call on all national governments, development partners and finance institutions, the private sector, civil society and youth:

1. to jointly draft development strategies with the participation of local stakeholders and communities, in particular youth and women, which implies an effective reinvestment in the knowledge base on changing rural livelihoods and statistical systems to inform evidence-based diagnoses, visions and objectives;

2. to respect, protect and fulfil human rights, including the right to food, water and sanitation;

3. to undertake additional and scalable joint efforts for creating new rural opportunities with a special focus on decent and attractive jobs for the young generation, cutting underemployment of youth at least in half by 2025;

4. to pursue a new long-term, enhanced development partnership between Europe and Africa at a large scale through a type of “Marshall Plan with Africa” as presented by the German Government;

5. to realise the enormous potential of smallholders, family farms, pastoralists and small-scale fishers and the emerging processing and distribution sectors/small and medium enterprises through improvement of legal frameworks including land rights and rights to genetic resources, innovation, access to skills development, access to markets, infrastructure, services and finance, linkages to value adding processing in rural areas and risk reduction measures such as insurance systems; and acknowledge the transformative power of local organisation;

6. to encourage education and media institutions to help improve the social image of farmers, pastoralists and fishers since both have been stamped with backwardness for a long time;

7. to make smart and responsible use of appropriate ICTs to realise the potential of digitisation more systematically, without ignoring the challenges of unregulated digitisation. That includes ICT-based service platforms in rural areas for agricultural extension services, open source local innovation and knowledge databases, business connections and mobile banking;

8. to reverse ongoing trends concerning the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems, effectively implement the Paris Agreement with regard to climate change. Drought-affected areas need particular support to overcome food insecurity, irreversible deterioration of the natural resource base and the disintegration of rural communities. Sustainable management of water resources warrants particular attention.
We call on national and local governments

1. to honour the above cited global and national commitments and their quantitative goals, such as in the SDGs, Paris Agreement of 2015, and the African Union's Malabo Declaration, and to monitor and submit concrete implementation plans for these commitments;

2. to work toward ending all forms of discrimination against women, youth, people with disabilities and social, religious and ethnic minorities in rural economic, political and social life, and address their special needs; and safeguard and honour the rights of the youth to food, education, health, nutrition, participation, choices, a decent job and prosperous life;

3. to realise sound governance, justice and the rule of law and greater policy coherence and coordination across government departments and along decentralised levels of government; and to increase leadership by local governments in participatory planning rural development and employment and effective fiscal, administrative and political decentralisation that ensures transparency and accountability and gives rural areas and local governments more decision-making power;

4. to offer an enabling environment to create dynamic and profitable economic and social entrepreneurship for rural youth inside and outside the agricultural sector;

5. to foster integrated territorial development strategies, that bring together rural and urban policies, and to recognise the important roles of intermediary cities and towns in addressing rural development and regional inequality; vulnerable landscapes including coastal and mountainous areas and their communities require particular attention;

6. to offer social protection to those in rural and urban areas who are unable to secure their livelihoods under economic or environmental stress, the disabled and the elderly; and services to protect and enhance livelihoods including for ecosystem services and water, sanitation and hygiene sectors;

7. to provide the ground for sustainable investments of the private sector, in particular in social businesses including small and medium enterprises, and support the access to finance and micro venture innovation finance in rural areas;

8. to strengthen innovative education systems and raise access to vocational training that equip young people for the changing demands of the labour market and the expansion of agricultural value chains, with a particular focus on improving access to education opportunities for girls and young women;
9. to support sustainable agricultural and rural modernisation through increased production and productivity, science, technology, innovation and access to finance, noting the potentials of indigenous local knowledge and locally adapted production systems as well as grassroots innovations; and to recognise the critical importance of protecting natural resources as a basis for sustainability and climate resilience;

10. to facilitate the creation of local, national and regional markets through domestic incentives, conducive framework conditions for the private sector and infrastructure support; and to foster regional integration and regional trade and policies to ensure that global market spaces are open for local stakeholders; and create incentives that link the smallholders to markets;

11. to promote and not constrain but give operating space to civil society organisations and recognise farmers and youth organisations as legitimate stakeholders, including in holding governments accountable.

We call on the youth globally

1. to actively engage as agents of change by self-organising in support of their rural communities’ development and as entrepreneurs for the sustainable modernisation of the agricultural sector;

2. to engage in information exchange among youth communities nationally and internationally, making use of the increasing opportunities offered by ICTs;

3. to hold policymakers accountable to commitments made, such as the SDGs, and to take concrete actions.

We call on civil society

1. to engage in the implementation of Agenda 2030 and to advance the relevant elements, taking into account the needs and aspirations of rural communities and in particular the youth;

2. to harness creativity and the capacity of bottom-up innovation by rural communities, and channel more investments into the development of rural areas and the participation of rural youth in value chains and business opportunities;

3. to give voice to the rural population, especially women and youth and support them in their collective action to become strong partners for government and private investors.
We call on the private sector

1. to increase pro-poor investments and establish socially viable businesses, including social businesses, serving rural areas in all sectors with a particular focus on youth employment;

2. to provide affordable access to financial services, risk capital and guarantee funds in rural areas, including mobile phone based banking;

3. to invest in the development of value chains and local productive systems that engage smallholders and other small businesses with reliable contracts and decent pay, including shared value approaches in business strategies, whilst taking ecological aspects into account;

4. to invest in primary and secondary skill development, including offering on-the-job training as part of vocational education and training systems;

5. to report in a transparent way on progress made with these initiatives.

We call on bilateral and multilateral development partners

1. to honour the above-cited global commitments as guiding policies, and to monitor and implement plans in line with these commitments;

2. to work towards fair trade and agricultural policies that do not undermine the role of small-scale farmers in providing local and global food security;

3. to align their technical and financial support with country-led policies and programmes tailored to local diversified needs and risk-taking capacities;

4. to increase investments in rural and inter-regional infrastructure, especially transportation, energy, irrigation, and ICTs; and to focus on high-impact investments for innovation and jobs by bilateral and multilateral partners in cooperation with local development organisations; to integrate development efforts and build on existing mechanisms to ensure coherence and sustainability;

5. to allocate increased proportions of ODA to rural development, including the promotion of education and jobs and the improvement of rural life, and to develop a common reporting mechanism to track outcomes;

6. to massively and immediately increase humanitarian aid and fulfil existing commitments in order to end the current hunger crises and food insecurity in emergency situations;

7. to actively reach out to the private sector and non-governmental organisations to tap the innovation potential of the agricultural sector and to jointly work towards pro-poor growth in rural areas.

This call for action is based on our assessment of the challenges and opportunities that are outlined below in this charter.
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