



# Special Initiative “Transformation of Agricultural and Food Systems”

Everyone has the right to secure, adequate and balanced nutrition, but ...

The Special Initiative contributes to achieving these sustainable development goals:

## → DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

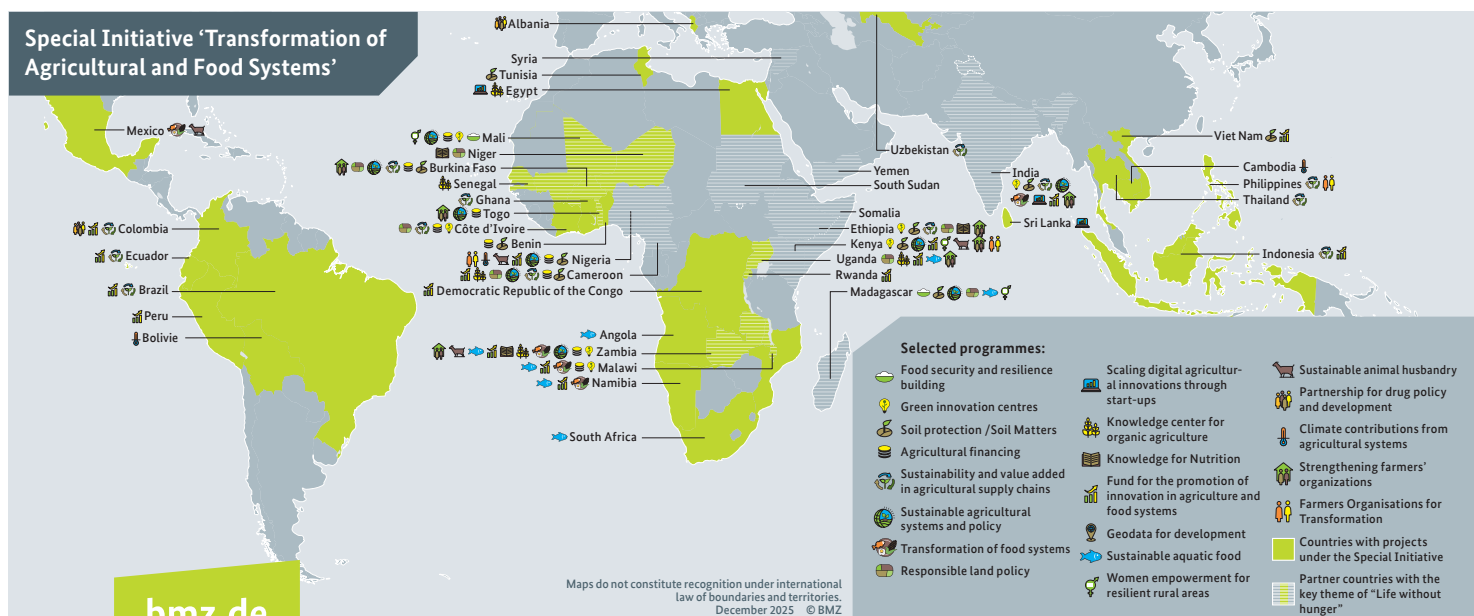
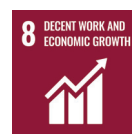
- about 673 million people worldwide are starving?
- 2.6 billion people cannot afford healthy food?
- agricultural production must increase by approximately 50 percent by 2050 for a growing world population?
- farmers are also one of the most vulnerable groups to climate change?

## → MEANWHILE ...

- agricultural and food systems cause up to 31 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.
- 10 million hectares of forest are lost every year – 90 percent to the expansion of farmland for producing agricultural raw materials.
- the effects of these environmental changes endanger agricultural productivity and resilience and the natural basis of people's livelihoods.

## → THAT'S WHY WE FOCUS ON ...

- a transformation agenda towards more **sustainable production, processing and consumption**.
- **linking** the issues of food security, agriculture, fisheries and rural development to **climate protection and adaptation, biodiversity conservation and waste prevention**.
- **local solutions** and structures to improve the availability of and **access to a balanced and healthy diet** – year round and even in times of crisis.
- **location-based, long-term solutions** that increase productivity, conserve biodiversity and curb climate change.
- **women's equality** in line with the “3 Rs” – rights, resources and representation.
- **close linkage between data, research, innovation and their application**.





## HOW WE WORK

In 2024, the BMZ invested around 2.4 billion euros in global food security, agriculture and rural development. Through strategic partnerships, Germany's engagement is deliberately amplified and rendered effective internationally.



## FUNCTIONING AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SYSTEMS MUST ...

- become more effective, more efficient and **resilient to shocks of all kinds**.
- be **ecologically, economically and socially sustainable**, contribute to income and employment, overcome poverty and create prosperity.
- maintain the **rights and interests of producers** and consumers in a fair balance.
- avoid waste and protect the **climate and natural resources**.
- offer people in rural areas **future prospects with income and employment opportunities** and attractive living conditions.



## TO THIS END ...

- we advocate **globally for the Transformation of Agricultural and Food Systems**. The Special Initiative clearly highlights issues of sustainability in production, processing and consumption and how these are connected to the major global issues of climate and biodiversity preservation.
- our work is an alignment with global processes such as the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) and the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty (GAAHP) in order to **create political framework conditions at both the global and the partner country level**.

- we cooperate with multilateral partners from civil society, business, academia, politics, religious institutions and the executive organisations Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and KfW Development Bank.

## SUCCESSES TO DATE

We accomplished a lot between 2014 and 2024. With the Special Initiative "Transformation of Agricultural and Food Systems" we build on following successful outcomes:

- Over 12.8 million people, women and children in particular, have better nutrition as a result of the special initiative.
- More than six million people are receiving support to cope with the effects of climate change.
- 4.7 million hectares of degraded land and forests have been restored and are being managed more sustainably.
- Over 4.3 million smallholder households have increased their income.
- The land rights of at least 591,000 farming families are secured.
- Over 2.8 million people in rural areas benefit from improved qualifications.
- Over 340,000 tonnes of sustainably caught fish.
- Over 670 million euros in additional income for small-scale fishers and producers in aquaculture.

Published by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)  
Division 122- Agriculture, rural development

AS at December 2025

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Edited by Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

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