



More and Better Newsletter

N.4, May 2010

Summary

1. **The final declaration of FAO CSOs/NGOs Consultation in Yerevan**
 2. **A new trust fund for agriculture**
 3. **The revision of the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA)**
 4. **UK Food Group Briefing: “Securing future food: towards ecological food provision”**
 5. **The MaB book “Good or bad aid for Agriculture and Rural Development?” is online!**
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1. The final declaration of FAO CSOs/NGOs Consultation in Yerevan

On 10th and 11th May 2010, 44 CSOs and NGOs, representing national organizations from 10 countries and 9 international organizations of the Region Europe and Central Asia (including More and Better), gathered in Yerevan before the Regional FAO Conference. They discussed issues on the agenda of the 27th FAO Regional Conference for Europe and the relationships between FAO and Civil Society. The Consultation came to a consensus on a number of key issues of common concerns; the [final declaration](#) and other useful documents are available [here](#). See also: [FAO Regional Conference for Europe \(ERC\), 27th Session](#)

2. A new trust fund for agriculture

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is a new trust fund administered by the World Bank. Donors who have made commitments to the fund include: the United States (\$475 million); Canada (\$230 million); Spain (\$95 million); South Korea (\$50 million) and the Gates Foundation (\$30 million). The fund will finance medium- to long-term elements of agricultural development in low income countries by focusing on three major areas: raising agricultural productivity; linking farmers to markets; technical assistance and capacity development.

A Steering Committee with the donor countries is established; representatives from civil society are invited to take part in as observers. The first decisions about funding will be taken already in June, this year. The selection process for the interim Southern civil society participants to the Steering Committee of the GAFSP has led to the nomination of Ndiogou Fall of ROPPA. He was President of ROPPA since its establishment in 2000 up to the assembly that took place in the Cote d'Ivoire just a few weeks ago where Djibo Bagna of Niger was elected as his successor. Ndiogou Fall's nomination has been approved by all five of the sub-regional farmer organization networks of Africa (EAFF, PROPAC, ROPPA, SACAU, UMAGRI). More and Better would like to monitor what kind of projects the money goes to and evaluate if that's according to the needs of small scale farmers.

We hope that organizations taking part in More and Better in the countries where programs

will be carried out, would like to work on this. We will keep you updated.

3. The revision of the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA)

About 150 participants from governments and civil society, including some representatives from More and Better members, attended the meeting in Dublin (May 17-18th) to give input to the revision of the CFA. The plan is that the High-Level Task Force will adopt a new version of the CFA in July/August 2010. You will find more information about the conference [here](#).

See also:

- [“A Tale of three cities: The Global Struggle Over Who Will End Hunger”](#),
An article by Eric Holt-Gimenez, Director of Food First in the US.
- [Comments on framework](#) (PDF, EN)
- [Comments on framework from Aksel Naerstad, More and Better](#) (PDF, EN)

4. UK for Food Briefing: “Securing future food: towards ecological food provision”

The [UK Food Group](#) Briefing shows why it is necessary to make the radical shift towards ecological food provision in order to secure future food for the world’s predicted 9 billion people. The systems that currently feed most people in the world are smaller-scale and locally-sourced. They can be enhanced through the practices of small-scale food providers based on agroecology to meet current and future local and global demands for food but to achieve this research and trade policies and agricultural support measures urgently need to be reoriented. The demands and commitments of the small-scale food providers themselves to continue to develop their resilient, diverse food systems in the framework of food sovereignty are summarised. Download [Securing future food: towards ecological food provision](#) (PDF, EN, 1Mb)

5. The MaB book “Good or bad aid for Agriculture and Rural Development?” is online.

The publication of More and Better which focuses on the quality of aid to agriculture by presenting case studies from 12 countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia is now available online. You can download it in PDF version, in [English](#) and [French](#) as well. For receiving hard copies, please contact the secretariat.

This is a monthly newsletter. Your contributions can be sent at secretariat@moreandbetter.org