

FARMING FIRST

In the past few months, Farming First has been making progress on our new initiatives – nutrition security and the green economy. Through participating in key international events and building our online presence, the coalition is helping to promote the agriculture sector within these discussions. To boost our campaigns, we have created a range of new materials including an online TV channel (Farming First TV), a data visualisation tool and two new policy papers.

Ahead of the G8 summit on 26-27 May, the coalition launched a six-part online infographic that demonstrates agriculture's potential to building a green economy. We entered the infographic into the **Gates Foundation's "Small Farmers" Challenge** and it was chosen as the "Best Infographic". Using existing data from leading research organisations, the infographic addresses the key aspects of a green economy; pursuing growth while helping to create sustainable livelihoods, reduce poverty and safeguard the environment. The infographic is **available online**. Farming First also released a press release calling on G8 leaders to take action on their food security pledges, to achieve both food security and green growth.

For more information:

- [Press Release ahead of G8 summit](#)
- [Bill Gates' blog featuring the Farming First infographic](#)

New policy papers

The coalition has produced two new policy papers – one for the green economy and the other for nutrition. These papers present our views and recommendations on these issues. Visit the [green economy page \(green economy policy paper\)](#) and [nutrition page](#) to learn more.

What next?

For the first time, on June 22nd, the agriculture ministers of the G20 countries will be meeting in Paris. Following on from the Guide to Food Security Initiatives that we produced last year, Farming First is creating an update on all the global and regional food security initiatives. This updated guide will compile into one place all the available data and news from the various organisations involved and will help us to see what progress has been made in the past year.

See the [Farming First Guide to Food Security Initiatives](#)

Farming First in Asia

LDCs Conference

During the UN conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Turkey on 9-13 May, Farming First hosted a side session to discuss empowering smallholder farmers to reduce poverty, hunger and malnutrition. The session "**Putting Farming First – Growth Through Agriculture**", had a panel that included farmers from Rwanda and Uganda, business representatives and NGOs, and the participants represented over 19 LDCs.

For more information:

- **Putting Farming First at the LDCs Conference**



We have launched Farming First TV! Farming First TV is one of the world's most comprehensive video libraries of interviews with leading experts on food and sustainable agriculture. Featuring videos with over eighty leading voices in agriculture, climate change and development, our video library is continually updated and covers some major international events. Please visit **Farming First TV on YouTube** and add us as a friend.

New videos on Farming First TV include:

- **The UN's View on Malnutrition, with David Nabarro from the UN**
(also available in **French** and **Spanish**)
- **Scaling-Up Nutrition, with Anna Taylor from DfID**
- **Building Agricultural Growth Corridors, with Sean de Cleene from Yara and Chris**

In August, Farming First will be in Singapore where we are sponsoring a roundtable on food security in partnership with CropLife Asia. The dinner event will take place during the International Conference on Asian Food Security. Professor Dr. S. K. Dutta, Deputy Director General (Crop Science) at ICAR, will be giving the keynote address. More details to come...

Farming First in the news

Reuters:

Women farmers: Voiceless pillars of African agriculture

FoodSecurity:

How agriculture can help to achieve the G8's green economy ambition

Reuters:

Beat back African poverty and emissions with ag green growth

Farmers Guardian:

G8 leaders urged to put farming first

CIMMYT:

Calling on the G8 to meet the food security challenge

FAO:

Visualizing agriculture in a green economy

Gates Foundation:

Small Farmers are the Answer Challenge

New Supporters

We welcome a new organisation to the coalition:

Self Help Africa

<http://www.selfhelpafrica.org/>

and also welcome the newly-founded **World Farmers Organisation**! WFO has replaced IFAP on the Steering Committee of Farming First since April 2011 and we look forward to a very productive collaboration in the

Isaac from AgDevCo

- **Water Use in Southern Africa, with Amy Sullivan from FANRPAN**

coming months (and years!)

Twitter News

We have now reached 5500 followers on Twitter - thank you for all your support!