

#### 4. Promoting the transition to sustainable agri-food systems globally

In its international cooperation<sup>1</sup>, the EU will support the global transition to sustainable agri-food systems in line with the objectives of this Strategy. To that effect, the EU will develop Green Alliances on sustainable agri-food systems, responding to distinct challenges in different parts of the world.

The EU will focus its cooperation on agri-food research and innovation, with particular reference to climate change adaptation and mitigation; agro-ecology; sustainable landscape management and land governance; conservation and sustainable use of agro-biodiversity; inclusive and fair value chains; nutrition and healthy diets; prevention of and response to food crises, particularly in fragile contexts and humanitarian crises; resilience and risk preparedness; integrated pest management; and sanitary/phytosanitary and food safety standards, as well as sustainability of its humanitarian aid. The EU will build on ongoing initiatives<sup>2</sup> and use multi-stakeholder and integrated approaches.

The EU will support and accompany partner countries in the monitoring and phasing out of highly hazardous and harmful pesticides to human health and the environment according to international standards, agreements and conventions, and cooperate in strengthening their legislation and enforcement capacity governing phytosanitary products.

To reduce the EU's contribution to global deforestation and forest degradation, the Commission will: (i) propose regulatory and non-regulatory measures to minimise the deforestation risk associated with commodities on the EU market; and (ii) support partner countries on sustainable agriculture and through actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore forests.

The EU will continue to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and overfishing, promote sustainable management of fish and seafood resources and strengthen ocean governance, marine cooperation and coastal management<sup>3</sup>.

The Commission will incorporate these priorities in the programming guidance for cooperation with third countries in the period 2021-27.

Building on new evidence, the Commission will update its Action Plan on Nutrition<sup>4</sup> and its Staff Working Document Addressing Undernutrition in emergencies<sup>5</sup> by *i.a.* focusing on integration between nutrition outcomes and all forms of food assistance, the Continuum of Care throughout the life cycle, shifting the narrative to tackling all forms of malnutrition, and taking into account specific nutritional needs and vulnerabilities of neglected groups and will continue its periodic reporting

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<sup>1</sup> The EU currently cooperates with more than 60 partner countries on agriculture, nutrition and food security and has committed EUR 9 billion in these areas in 2014-20; it has 13 Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements with third countries, and is one of the main providers of humanitarian food assistance.

<sup>2</sup> E.g. the Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DESIRA) initiative.

<sup>3</sup> Through the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements and our cooperation with third countries on IUU and on sustainable value chains in fisheries and aquaculture; cooperation is particularly relevant with countries affected by climate change.

<sup>4</sup> Ref Action Plan

<sup>5</sup> SWD(2013) 72 final

on progress against the stunting reduction commitments made for 2025. In the same vein, the Commission will update its Staff Working Document on Humanitarian Food Assistance<sup>6</sup> with a focus on the humanitarian-development nexus in the food sector, and on the measures at our disposal to meet food needs and ensure food access.

The EU will support the development of analytical and policy support tools on sustainable agri-food systems as global public goods. The EU will promote the global transition to sustainable agri-food systems in relevant multilateral fora and international events<sup>7</sup>.

The Commission will ensure that all measures taken under the Farm-to-Fork Strategy will meet the Treaty obligations on Policy Coherence for Development<sup>8</sup>.

ACTIONS	Indicative timetable	No.	(Lead DG)
<b>Promoting the transition to sustainable agri-food systems globally</b>			
Launch Green Alliances on agri-food systems with development partners to promote the transition to sustainable food systems in developing countries, responding to distinct challenges in different parts of the world.	2021	21	DEVCO
Update Staff Working Document 'Addressing Undernutrition in Emergencies' (SWD(2013) 72 final)	2020	22	ECHO
Update Staff Working Document 'Humanitarian Food Assistance' (SEC(2010)374/F1)	2020	23	ECHO

<sup>6</sup> SEC(2010)374/F1

<sup>7</sup> including notably the UN Conference on Biological Diversity in 2020, the Nutrition for Growth Summit in 2020 and the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021.

<sup>8</sup> Article 208(2), Treaty on the European Union