



# Agriculture and Food Security for Development

**David Radcliffe**

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Natural Resources.

**DG Development**

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# Food Security: the challenge

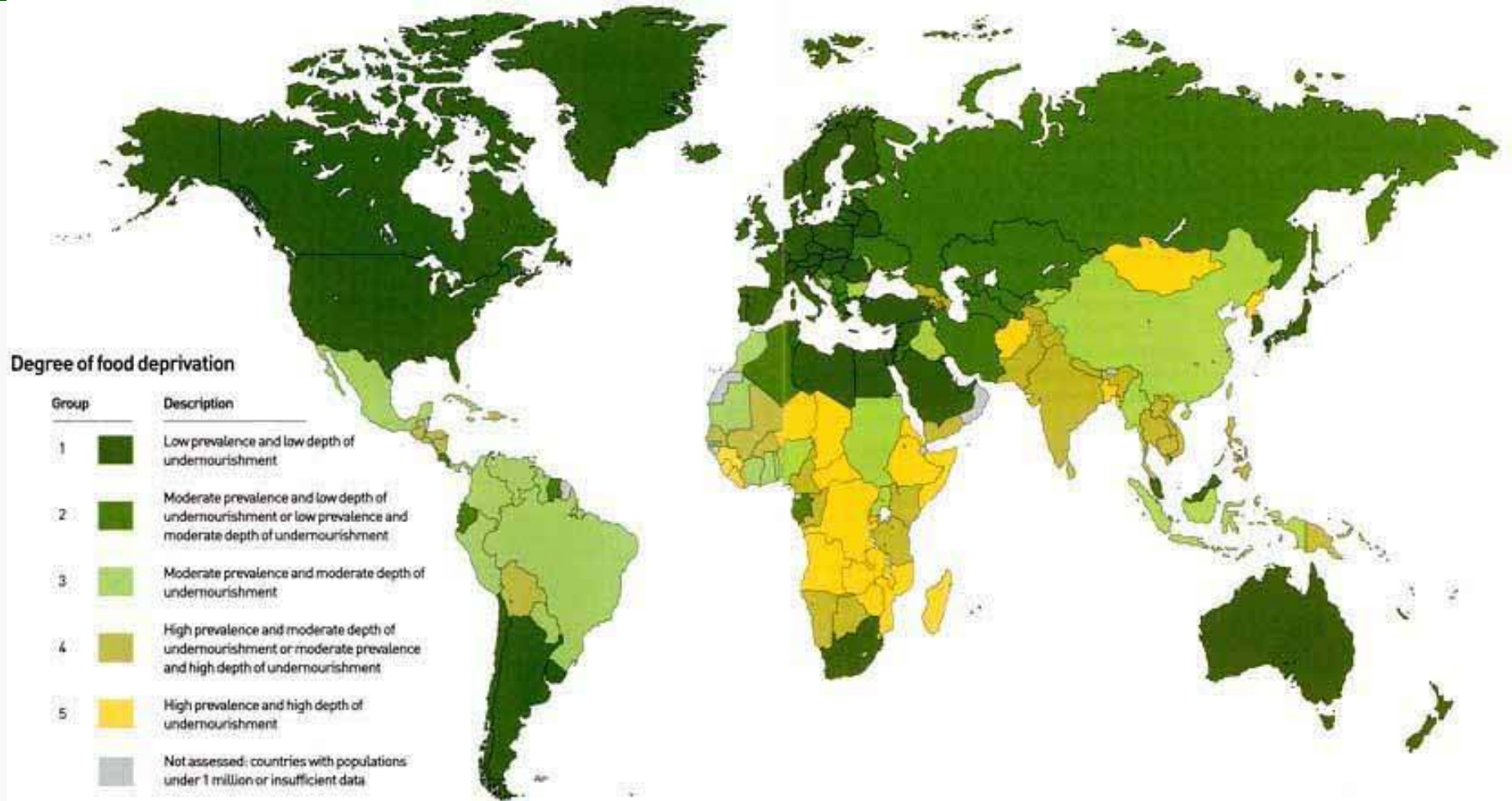
- Hunger and malnutrition have increased in the world affecting human development, social and political stability, and progress towards MDGs
  - Number of food insecure in 2009: **1.02 billion**
  - **MDG1** seriously off-track







# Global Food Deprivation



Source: FAO

European

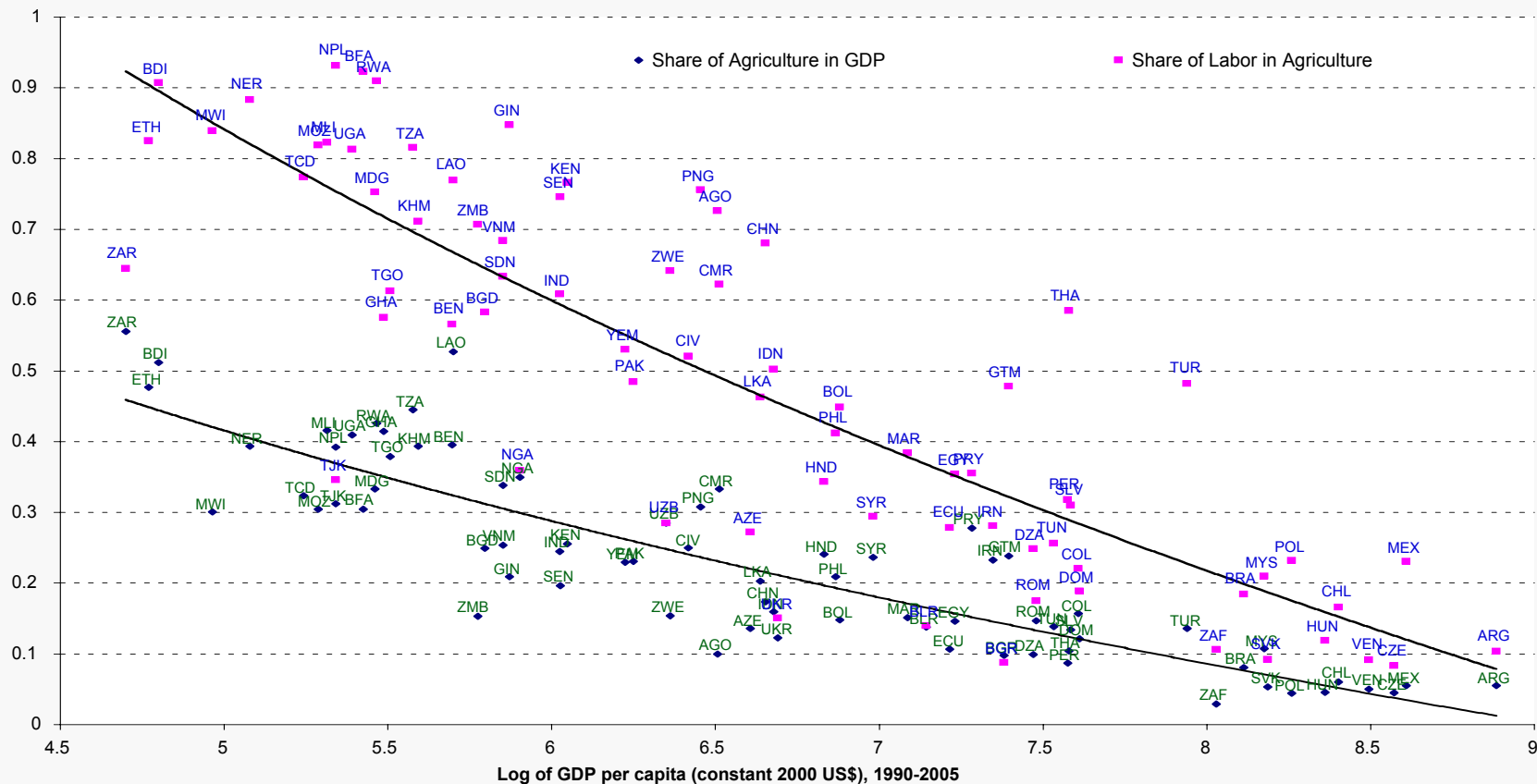


Commission



# Agriculture: large economic sector in poor countries

Share of Labor in Agriculture and Share of Agriculture in GDP



Source World Bank, WDR 2008

The share of agriculture in GDP can be 30-50% in poor countries; the share in employment 60-90%



# How is EU responding?





# Relevant European Commission Initiatives

- **New Communication: EU Policy framework to assist developing countries addressing food security challenges (March 2010)**
  - Implementation framework being prepared with member states
- Food facility
- Food Security Thematic Programme
  - Moving to second phase 2011-13
- European Development Fund
- RTD Framework Programme 7



# Approach of the Communication

- The proposed policy framework addresses food insecurity across the 4 pillars:
  - 1) Increasing availability of food
  - 2) Improving access to food
  - 3) Improving nutritional adequacy of food intake
  - 4) Enhancing crisis prevention and management
  
- To be effective, assistance needs to be adapted to the country/regional context



# Policy Communication Priorities

- The Communication proposes that the EU should prioritise 4 broad dimensions:
  - Improve **smallholder resilience** and rural livelihoods
  - Support **effective governance**
  - Support **regional** agriculture and food security policies
  - Strengthen **assistance mechanisms** for vulnerable population groups





# Smallholders are central to the Policy

- Sustainable small-scale food production as a main focal area of EU assistance:
  - Ecologically efficient intensification
  - Value chain approach (with due attention to financing, processing and markets)
  - Governance key - particularly around land
  - Demand-driven research and innovation (incl. CC adaptation)
  - Reducing post-harvest losses
  - Regional integration



# FSTP and ENRTP: Deepening collaboration

## ➤ FSTP

- Agricultural research to generate international public goods
- Linking information systems with food security response strategies
- Continental and regional approaches

## ➤ ENRTP

- Promoting environmental sustainability
- Promoting implementation of EU commitments, including
  - EU water and energy initiatives
  - Climate change
  - Biodiversity
  - Sustainable land management
  - Forests
  - Illegal logging and forest governance
  - Fisheries and marine resources



# EU Policies on Information Systems for Food Security (ISFS)

- Challenges on ISFS:
  - **Harmonisation and coordination** of ISFS: national, regional and global levels. Emergency of continental level, i.e. CAADP
  - Need for **quality, reliability, updating** and transparency of data. Important to stimulate country demand for quality of information
  - **Multiple initiatives** but a lack of harmonization and understanding of needs. Actions should be defined collectively.
  - What role for **Earth observation/** remote sensing systems?
  - How to factor in **impacts of climate change**?
- Possible future response: setup of an international network of ISFS stakeholders as a platform for discussion and coordination on ISFS





# Why EO is important to development

➤ Many development challenges have a geographical dimension:

➤ **Food Security**

- 30% population undernourished and 28% children malnourished.
- Crop productivity < population growth

➤ **Climate Change**

- Extremely vulnerable, weak adaptive capacity
- High risk that coping thresholds are exceeded
- Crops yields reduced by 50% in some African countries

➤ **Natural Disasters**

- 0.7 million fatalities, 319 million affected, \$24 billion damage from 1980 to 2008

➤ **Water resources management**

- 25% population experiences high water stress
- Rapid melting of glaciers

➤ **Desertification**

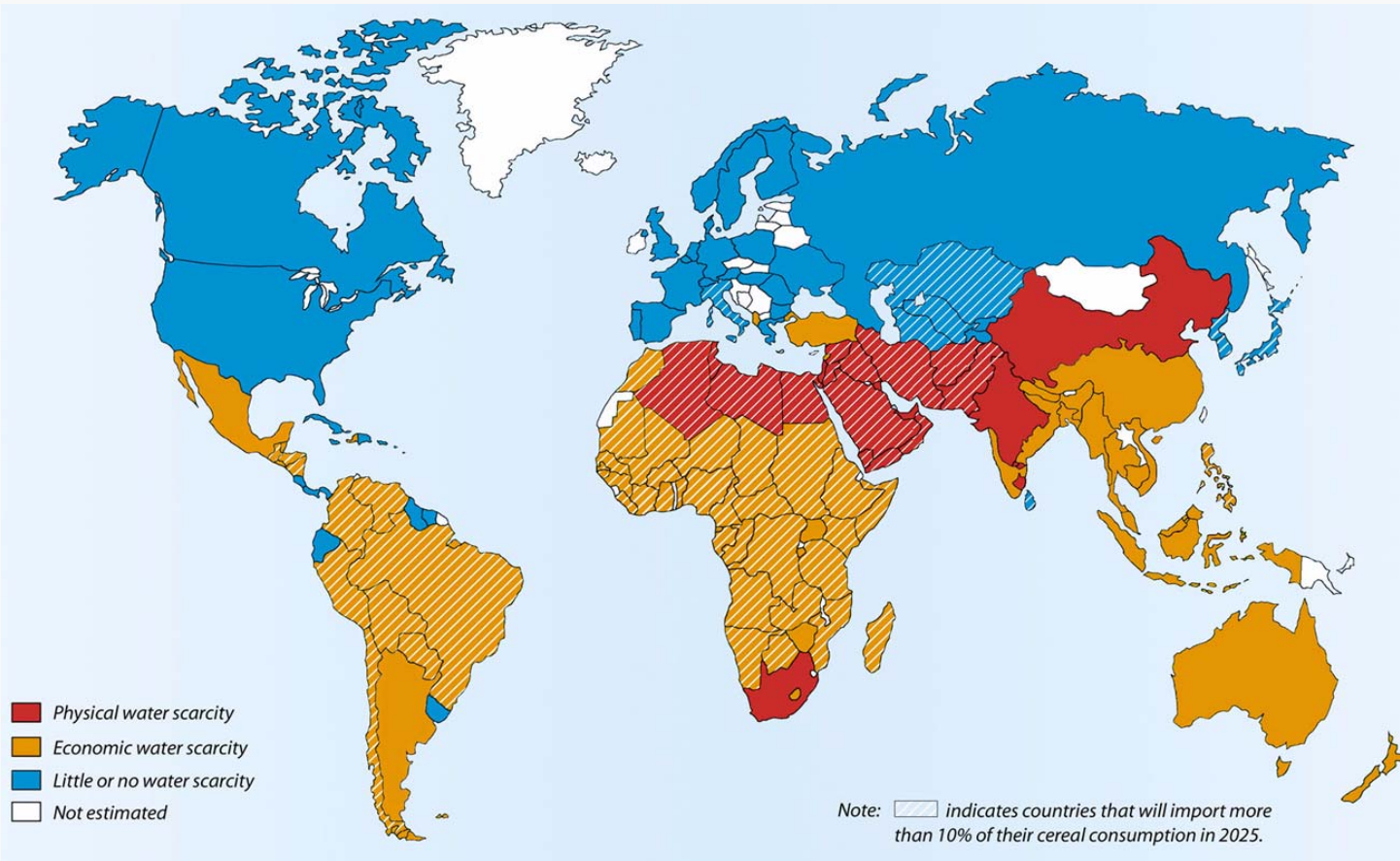
- Two thirds of African land degraded; 485 million affected, exacerbated by climate change

➤ **Deforestation**

- 4 million hectares of African forest lost between 2000 and 2005

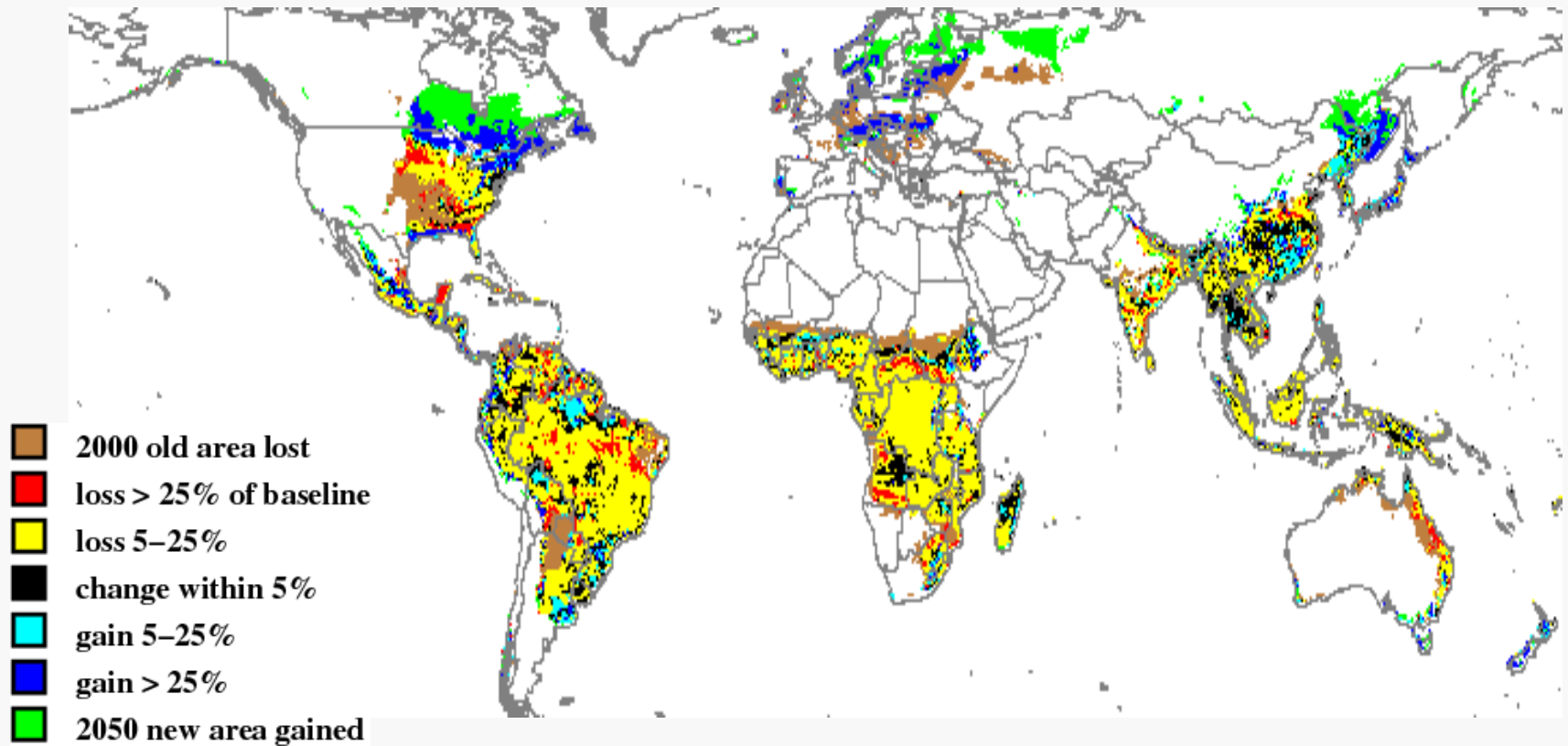


# Projected Water scarcity in 2025





## Climate change impact on production: Rainfed maize, 2050



**Global production = - 16%**

Source: M. Rosegrant (IFPRI) 2009





# DEV – GEO: Who is contributing to what?

- *“The real value of Earth observation can only be realised if its construction is guided by user needs rather than by technology”* – Prof. José Achache
- An iterative relationship:
  - Development needs drive information requirements
  - Strengthen justification for global integrated system
  - Infrastructure, data handling, analytical capability matched to user needs
  - Awareness and capacity building increase demand for services
- GEO supports development and development contributes to GEO

# The ACP Observatory

