

Context

In 2022, it was estimated that between 690 and 780 million people were suffering from hunger, and that 2.4 billion people did not have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food. Furthermore, the industrialisation of our food systems has contributed to significant degradation of land, water and ecosystems, generating high levels of greenhouse gas emissions and causing considerable biodiversity loss.

Finally, our food systems are marked by profound socio-economic disparities as power is more and more concentrated in a few large companies while the situation of the 2.3 billion small-scale farmers who depend on them for their livelihoods is increasingly dire.



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Our priorities

Enabel supports the transition to sustainable food systems by working on food production, processing, distribution and consumption. The aim is to guarantee food and nutritional security for all, while taking account of the environmental, climatic and socio-economic challenges.

Our action is developed around four priorities:

Sustainable and resilient agriculture

We are strengthening the capacity of food systems to withstand climatic, health and socio-economic shocks and stresses. Enabel supports stakeholders (producers, farmers, local communities and cooperatives) in their agro-ecological transition, to optimise interactions between plants, animals and people.

We are helping to make agri-food chains more sustainable by limiting losses, promoting renewable energies and supporting the relocation of food systems, i.e. bringing production and consumption closer together to encourage local or regional purchasing and consumption.

Inclusive agri-food chains that create jobs

We promote the creation of decent jobs, particularly for small producers, young people, rural women and displaced people.

To ensure fairer trade relations, Enabel strengthens producer organisations and links between players in the agri-food chain - producers, processors, traders, distributors and workers in the sector - and supports access to high-quality technical and financial services. Finally, we are improving the governance of labour markets by promoting social protection schemes and decent work standards.

Healthy and safe food

We are helping to eradicate hunger and malnutrition through our efforts in food production, processing, distribution and consumption. Enabel works to create healthier food environments by promoting not only production but also consumer

access to nutritious, healthy food. Enabel also supports rigorous certification systems and runs awareness-raising campaigns aimed at the most vulnerable sections of the population on the benefits of a balanced diet and the promotion of good hygiene practices.

Fostering institutional framework

We support national and regional authorities in drawing up policies and regulations tailored to a sustainable transition. Innovation and science play a central role in this policy dialogue.

Our services

We work at various levels with our international partners, offering them comprehensive, customised solutions:

Training and technical support

- Support for agricultural extension and the agro-ecological transition via advisory and demonstration services;
- Vocational training in agro-ecology and agri-food processing;
- Setting up and supporting educational vegetable gardens.

Support for entrepreneurship and MSMEs

- Incubation and acceleration of start-ups and MSMEs in the green and circular economy;
- Support to the creation of local value chains;
- Facilitating co-investments with private companies in the agri-food sector.

Support for governance and public policy

- Institutional capacity-building to develop sustainable food policies;
- Creation of technical working groups bringing together the various players in the value chain (producers, processors, distributors, consumer organisations, local authorities, research institutes, NGOs, private sector);
- Support for food safety certification mechanisms.

Research and innovation

- Support for collaborative research-action projects between Belgian and African universities covering a wide range of disciplines related to sustainable food systems;
- Setting up and supporting innovation labs.

Our experience

Support for agro-ecological transition in Burundi

In the provinces of Cibitoke and Kirundo, Enabel assists authorities and local organisations in improving the food and nutritional security of vulnerable households, while promoting environment-friendly transformation of agri-food systems. Activities include agro-ecological production through Integrated Farmer Field Schools, the construction of marketing infrastructure and support for green entrepreneurship. Incubation and acceleration programmes are offered to green and circular economy entrepreneurs and MSMEs.

Natural resource management in the Mono Delta

In the Benin-Togo border region Enabel and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) assist authorities of Benin in strengthening the management of the Mono Delta Biosphere Reserve and the Avlékété-Bouche du Roy marine protected area. The AGROMONO project, funded by the European Union, supports farmers and fishers through training in agro-ecological practices and fish farming and with training paths in agro-ecological professions. It also supports sustainable food systems entrepreneurship.

Resilience of agro-pastoral systems in West Africa

In Niger and Mali, the Research and Innovation Project for Productive, Resilient and Healthy Agro-Pastoral Systems in West Africa (PRISMA) is helping farmers and livestock breeders in the agro-ecological climate-smart transition. The project is funded by the European Union and improves animal, human and environmental health in sustainable agro-pastoral systems. This project is carried out in collaboration with three cooperation agencies: while LuxDev and AECID are working on improving access to pastoral resources and the availability of livestock feed, Enabel is focusing on the control and management of animal diseases transmissible to humans.

Enabel's expertise

The QR code gives you access to the full range of our expertise: Global health - Social protection - Education & skilling - Economic & business development - Food systems - Natural resources management, biodiversity - Climate governance - Energy transition - Water - Green building - Urban development - Human mobility - Security - Justice - Financial and administrative governance.

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