

Building employment and decent work
into sustainable recovery and development
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Rural Employment and Decent Work



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Why agriculture and rural employment?



Importance of rural (and agricultural) employment

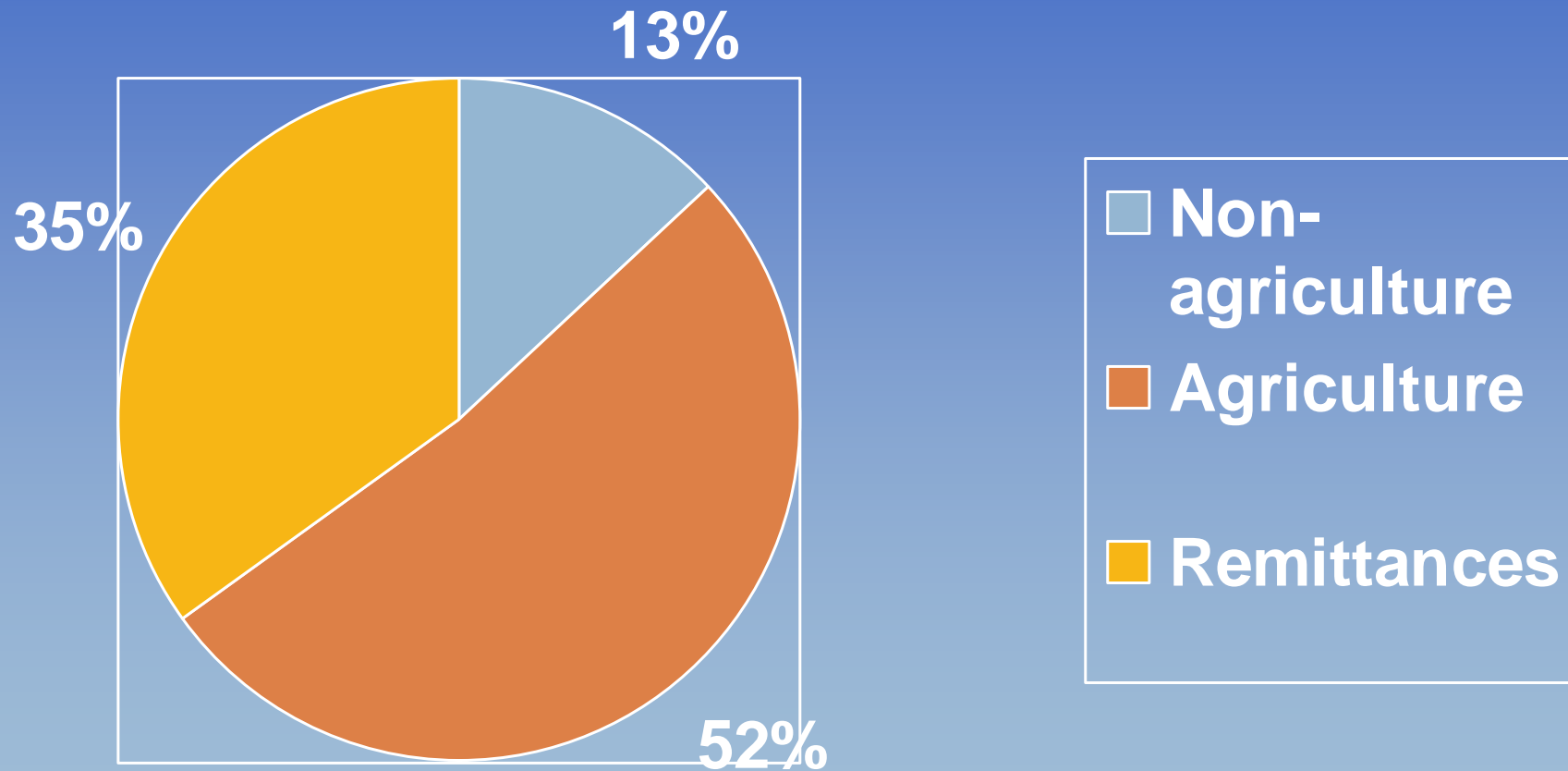
The facts:

- 3 billion people live in rural areas of developing countries, incl. 75% of the world's poor
- Agriculture provides
 - ✓ 1.3 billion jobs for small farmers/landless workers, including jobs for 450 million wage workers
 - ✓ livelihoods for 86 % of rural people (2.6 billion)
- Agriculture employs 60% of all child labourers

Agriculture is

- central to national and rural development
- dynamically related to the non-farm economy and rural-urban continuum
- hampered by inequalities (gender, age, scale)

Contribution in 25 countries with greatest success in poverty reduction (1980-2005)



Source: OECD calculations based on data from Povcalnet, 2009 and WDI, 2009.

FAO's objectives



MDG Target 1C: “halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger”



New FAO Strategic Framework

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L
Crop production	Live-stock production	Fish-eries, aquacu-lture	Food safety	Forest, tree man-a-gement	Natural res. mgmt, environ-challen-ges	Mar-kets for liveli-hoods, rural devel.	Food secur-ity, nutri-tion	Emer-gency prepar-edness + res-ponse	Gen-der equity in access	Invest-ment in agricul-ture + rural devel.



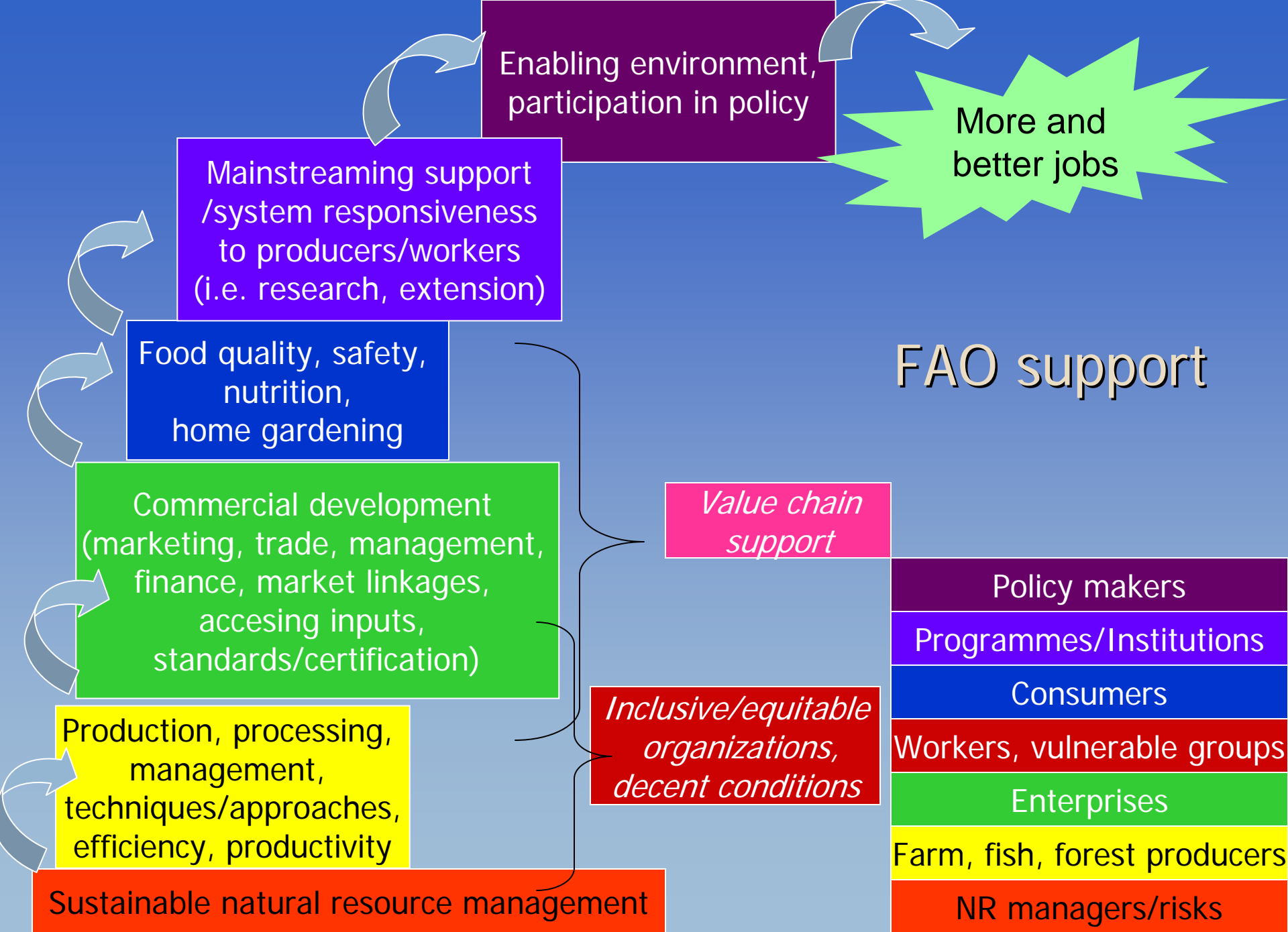
FAO's Contribution to Decent Work

Employment creation:
policies, services, technologies, skills, enterprises for small producers to increase/diversify incomes/livelihoods, save labor and access financial services

Social protection:
voluntary standards and codes of practice (pesticide, good agricultural practices, logging, safety at sea, right to food)

Standards and rights at work:
to reduce gender-based discrimination, child labor, and strengthen disaggregated data, legislation, rural associations, skills/ vocational training

Governance and social dialogue:
producer and natural resource users' associations, participation in policy formulation



Enabling environment, participation in policy

More and better jobs

FAO support

Value chain support

Inclusive/equitable organizations, decent conditions

Mainstreaming support /system responsiveness to producers/workers (i.e. research, extension)

Food quality, safety, nutrition, home gardening

Commercial development (marketing, trade, management, finance, market linkages, accesing inputs, standards/certification)

Production, processing, management, techniques/approaches, efficiency, productivity

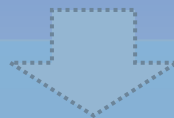
Sustainable natural resource management

- Policy makers
- Programmes/Institutions
- Consumers
- Workers, vulnerable groups
- Enterprises
- Farm, fish, forest producers
- NR managers/risks

FAO involvement in UN-wide initiatives

System-wide initiatives

- Comprehensive Framework for Action + World Committee on Food Security
- Plan of Action Second UN Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017): “Full employment and decent work for all”
- 2009 CEB Crisis Initiatives: Global Jobs Pact and Social Protection Floor Initiatives
- The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010 and Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016

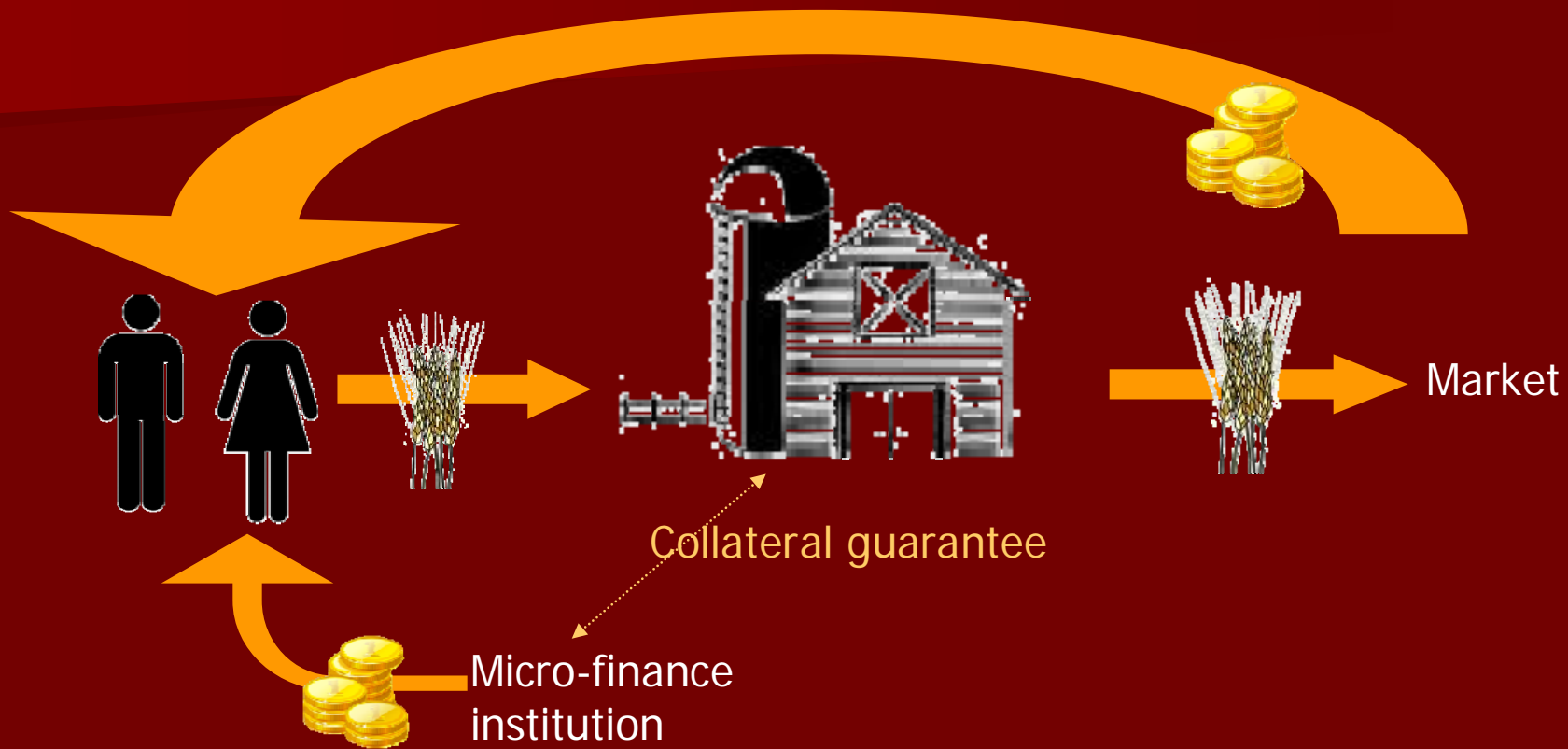


Strategic partnerships

- FAO-ILO Memorandum of Understanding 2004
- Strategic partnership with ILO-Africa
- FAO-IFAD-ILO Gender and Rural Employment (2008-2011)
- International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture (FAO, ILO, IFAD, IFPRI (CGIAR), and IUF)

Warehouse receipt system

Western & Southern Africa, India



In Niger:

- 33 % increase in stock value (in 4- 6 months of storage)
- New incomes from off-season cultivation activities
- 18 % of food stocks used for the lean season



Access to International Markets

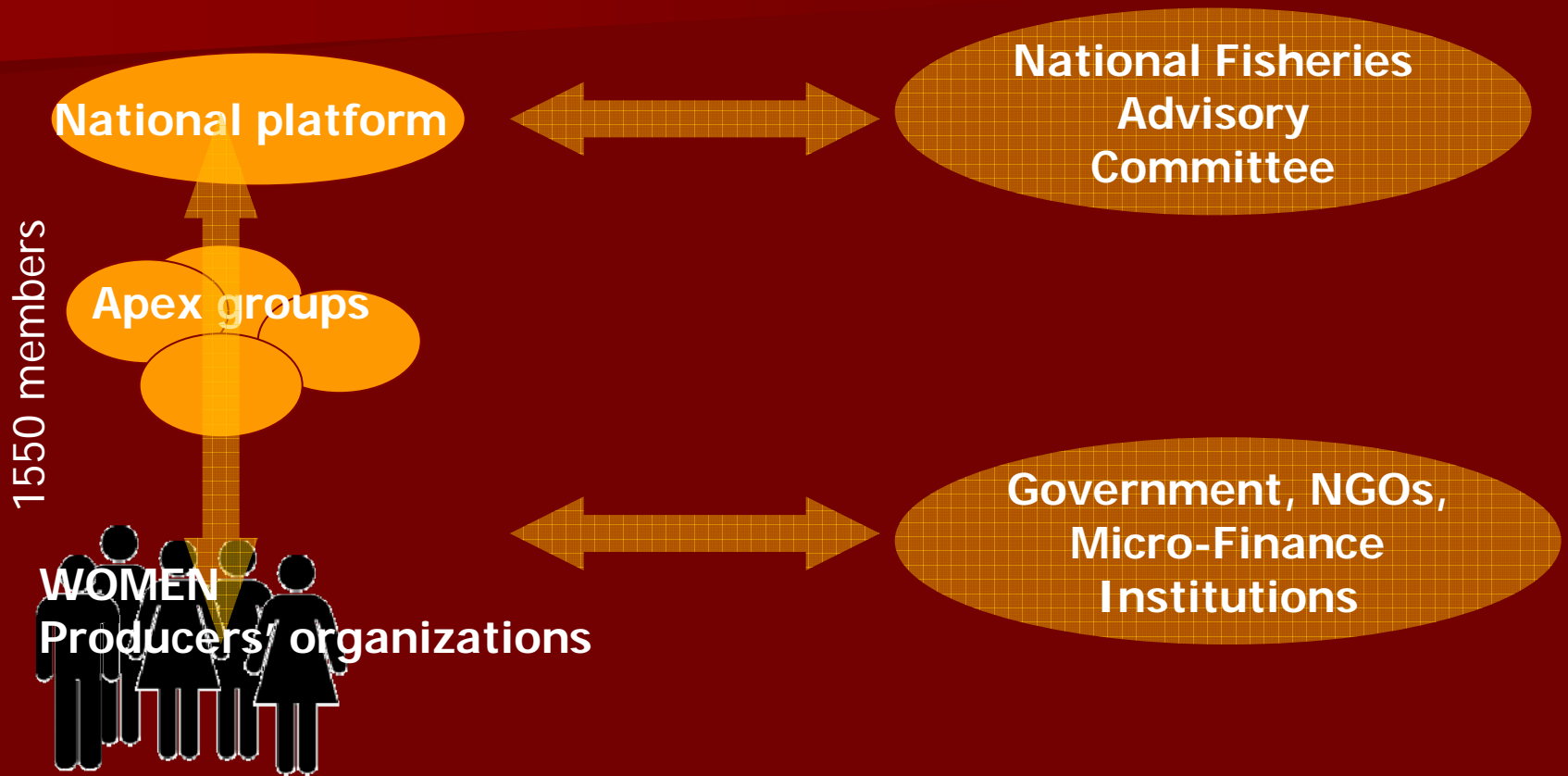
Fiji



- U\$ 1 million in export earnings (Nature Way Cooperative)
- U\$ 410,000 in farmer income generated annually
- 530 full time jobs (2008)- Expected to double by 2011



National Fisheries Post Harvest Operators Platform The Gambia



- Inclusion of Fisheries Post Harvest issues in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme II (October 2006)
- Participation in the formulation of Fisheries Act (2007)



Key dimensions of FAO's work on employment

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- i. Knowledge management
 - ii. Mainstreaming within FAO
 - iii. Country level policy advice and capacity development
 - iv. Technical assistance

1. Knowledge management and sharing

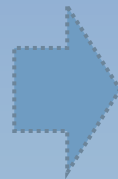
- State of Food and Agriculture: Women and Agriculture (2010-11)
- Gender & land rights database
- Agri-gender statistical toolkit
- **FAO/ILO/IFAD “Gender dimensions of agricultural and rural employment: Differentiated pathways out of poverty” (2009/10)**
- Child Labour and Children’s Economic Activities in Agriculture in Ghana (2008)



3. Integrated approach to country support

Strategic country approach:

- Strengthening policy, legislative and institutional frameworks
- Capacity development
- Piloting programmes and institutional mechanisms



Example: decent rural employment and entrepreneurship for youth:

- Institutionalizing Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) /Young Farmer Associations (YFAs) nationally

Discussion

- How best can we combine forces to maximize results?
 - ▣ better use of existing mechanisms/partnerships?
 - ▣ good practices to be scaled-up?
 - ▣ better policy coherence/more integrated approaches at country level?
 - ▣ identifying gaps and how to overcome them?

Thank you

