



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
**Climate Change,
Agriculture and
Food Security**



Actions to transform the food system

**SDC's Food System
Dialogues (FSD)**

27th April 2021





Need to reach/empower/build the resilience of 500 million smallholders by 2030
9 cropping seasons in some countries

One Gigatonne emission reduction target (2030)





Visions

1. Valorisation of the role of farmers in food systems
2. Strong social movements and networks between households
3. More sustainable production and shorter supply chains
4. National agriculture and food policies support for regional and seasonal food
5. Integration of nutrition in school curricula, maternal and infant care
6. Agro-ecologically sourced meals in school & community kitchens
7. Land and judicial reforms for improved/equitable access to land
8. Favourable import, export and tax regimes
9. A national system on accurate, safe and reliable data and certification
10. International agricultural research partnerships
11. Diversification of production and low-impact farming
12. Locally adapted crops, soil conservation and sustainable irrigation



What kept me up at night:

Scale?

Context?

Action?

How do we get to scale asap?

“Strong social movements and networks between households”



- What concrete actions do we need – e.g., for 60 M farmers in Africa?
- Projects with 1000s of farmers even 10s of 1000s are not going to do it.

- Levers of change to achieve scale:



- Finance?



National policies supporting farmer action?



- Digital to get scale?

Scale asap?

“Locally adapted crops, soil conservation and sustainable irrigation”



- It's not 100s more papers, reports, pilot projects on, e.g., sustainable irrigation

- **Levers of change to achieve scale:**



- Market incentives?

- Finance?



National policies?

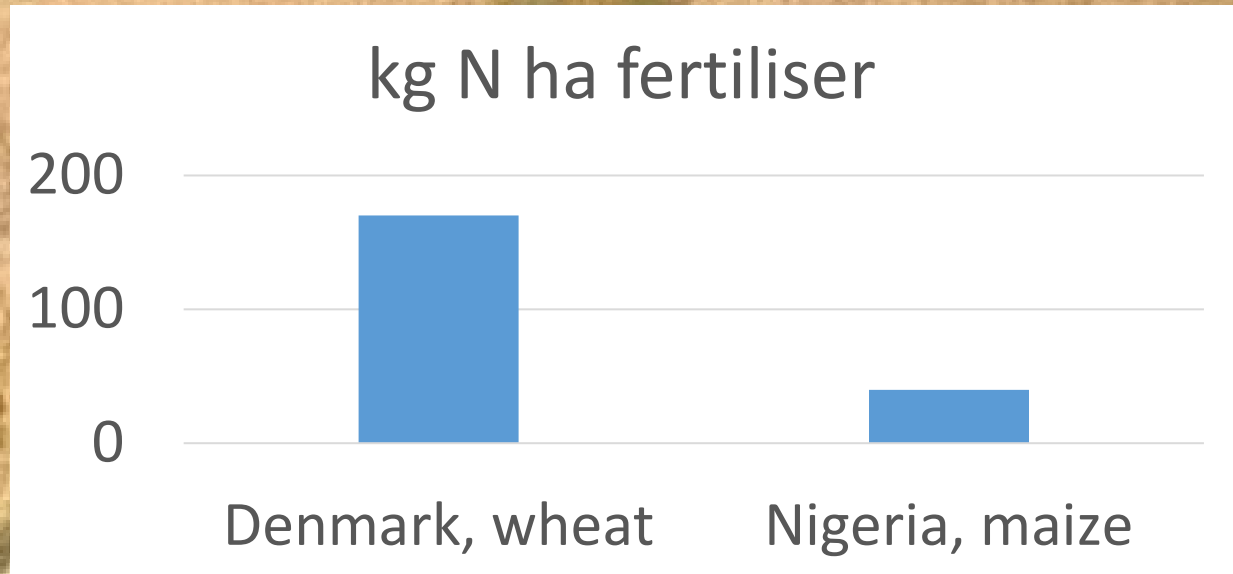


- Digital?

Scale but recognise context?

“Diversification of production and low-impact farming” ✓

**Many
smallholders are
high diversified**



Levers of change?

- Get the markets working for diversified crops – so it is not a coping strategy but a livelihood advancing strategy
- Multi-stakeholder local processes to set visions and targets
- Payments for ecosystem services

How do we make sure we focus on action?

- Not get locked up in definitions
 - Agro-ecology
 - Climate-resilient agriculture
 - Regenerative agriculture
 - Climate-smart agriculture
 - And in 5 years time
- ACTION -- What needs to happen in specific geographies for specific types of households
- BOLD ACTION –
 - e.g. "international agricultural research partners" – propose radical action!

In Conclusion

**Challenge is
enormous**

Scale

Context

Action



Thank you



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