



2nd Asian Irrigation Forum
Securing Water and Food for the Future

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Changing Rural Dynamics and The Future of Irrigation

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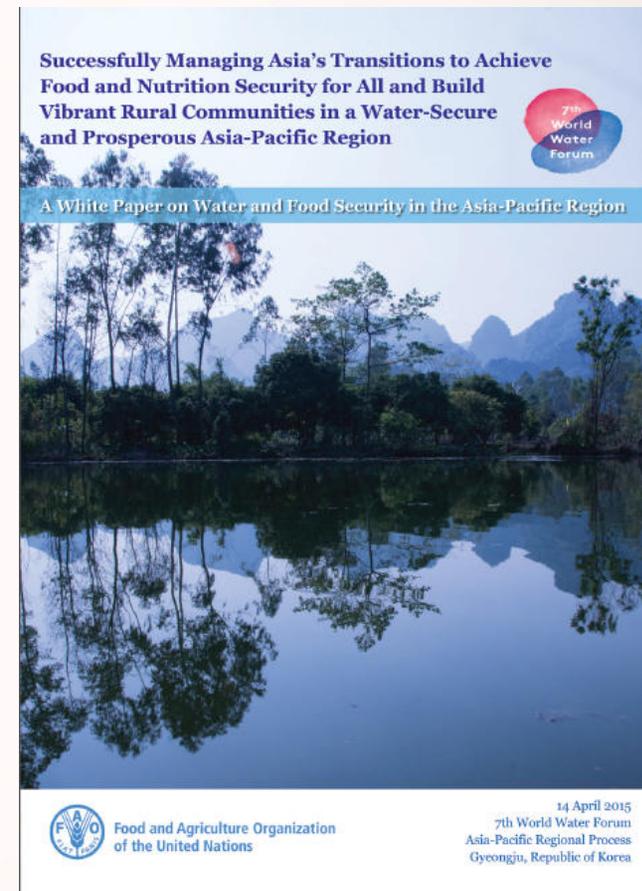
A regional dialogue of several years on water and food security in the Asia Pacific



FAO white paper: A White Paper on Water and Food Security in the Asia-Pacific

Successfully presented at the 7th World Water Forum

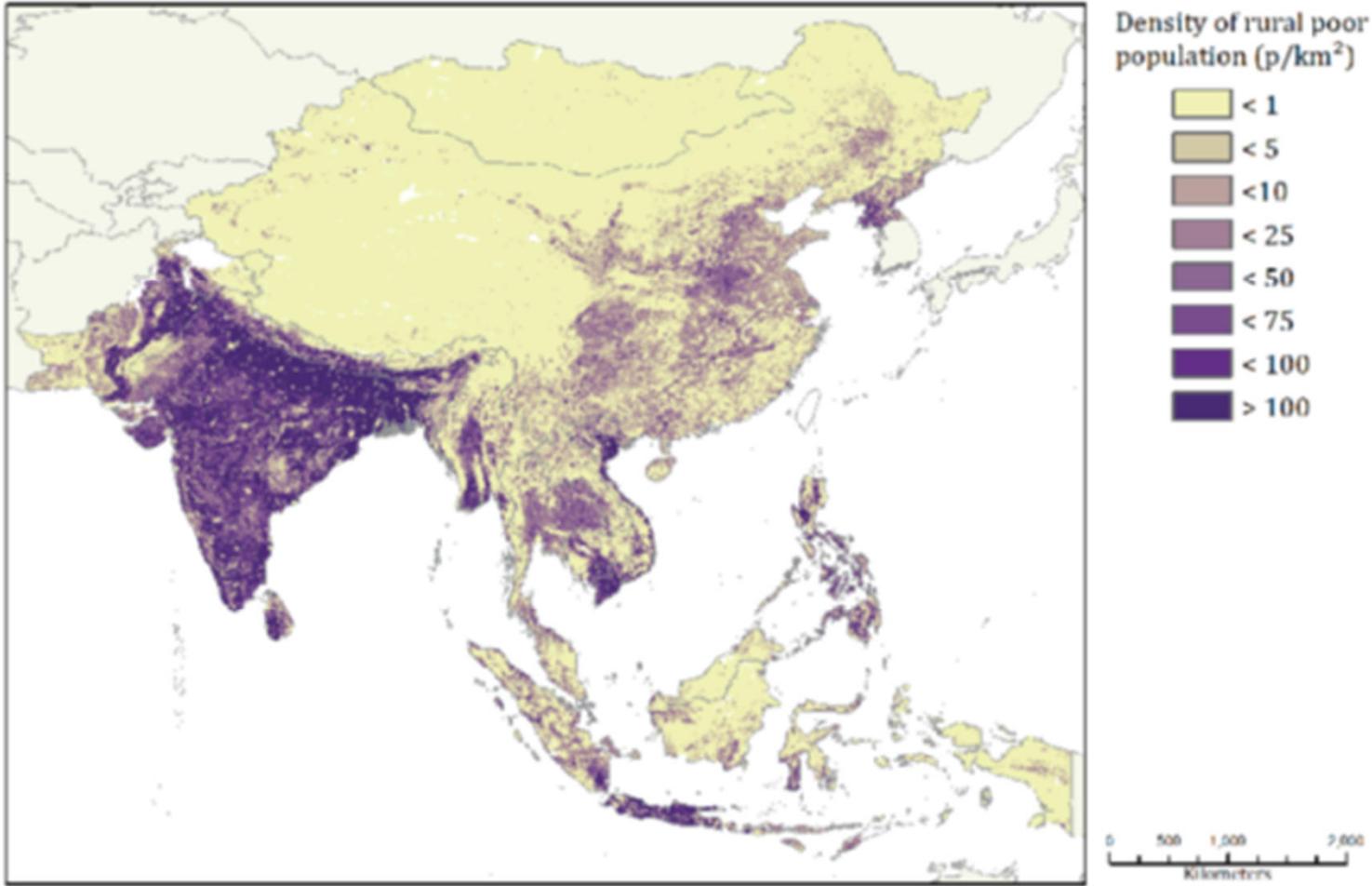
Partners: ADB, ICIMOD, FAO, GWP, ICID-CIID



Asia-Pacific: Velocity of Change

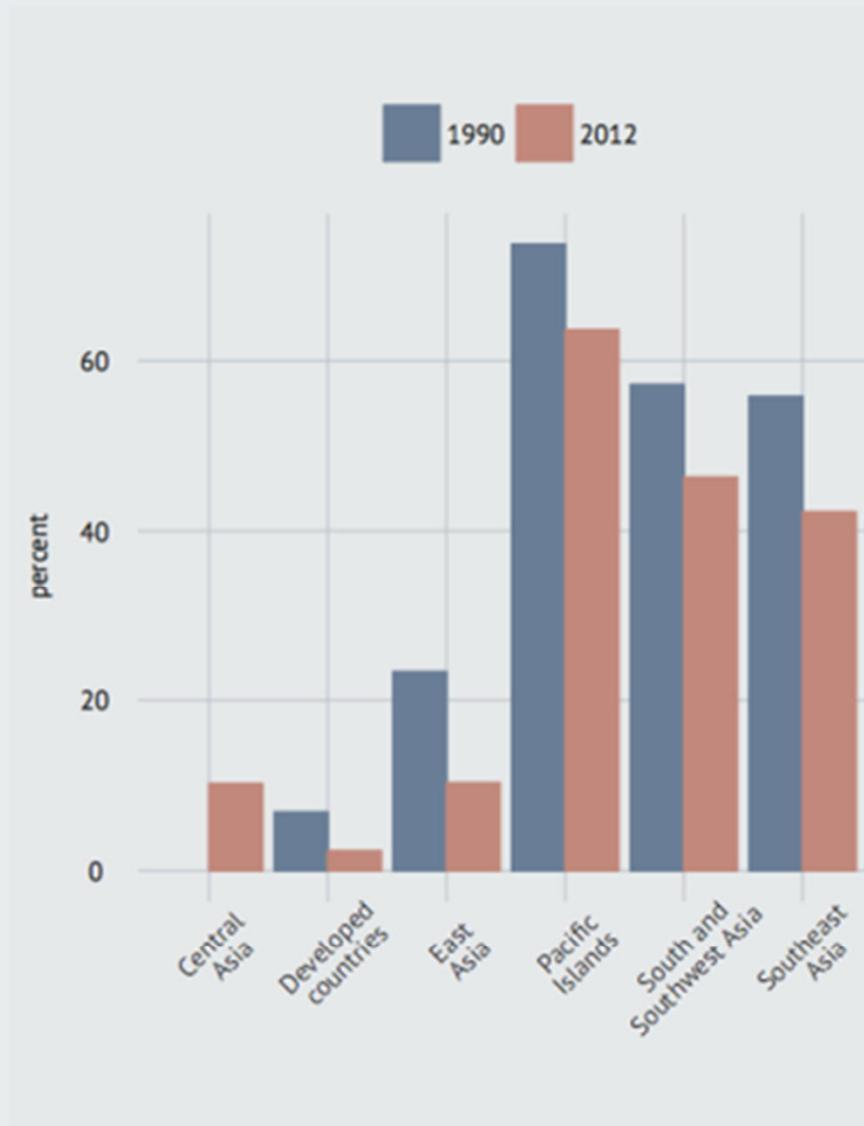


A fast-growing urbanizing but very diverse region. The Asian Century!



Agriculture's share of GDP declining rapidly but still dominating employment in developing countries. Smallholders.

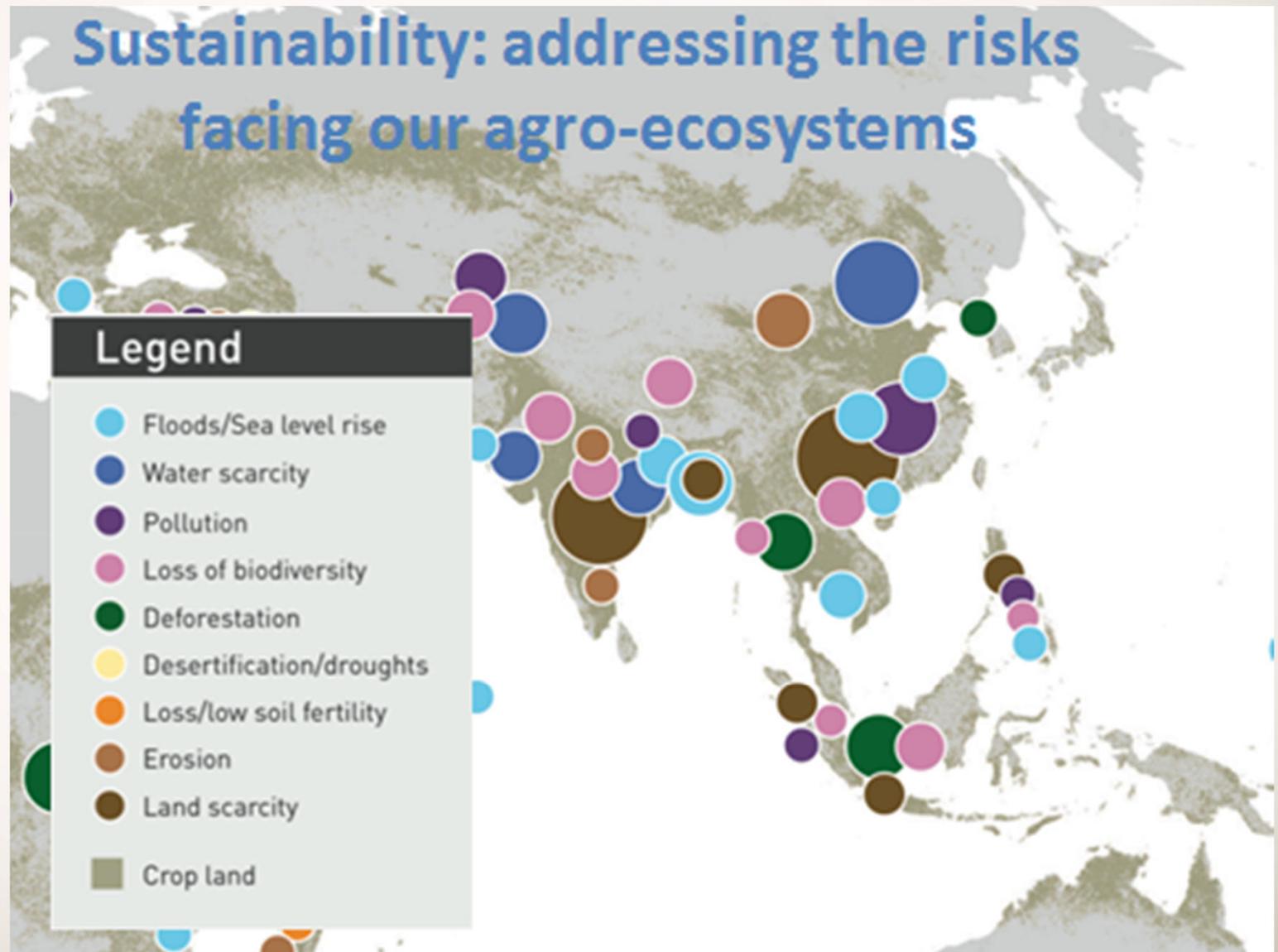
CHART 3: Agricultural population, share of total population (1990 and 2012)



Source: FAO, Statistics Division (FAOSTAT) and United Nations Population Division.

Sustainability: addressing the risks facing our agro-ecosystems

A narrow natural resources base under threat



Cracking the code: managing transitions



- ***Meeting Farmers Aspirations***
- **Two transitions occur**
 - structural transformation of agriculture
 - transition to sustainable agriculture
- **The challenges**
 - Co-manage
 - Understand Rural dynamics
 - Facilitate Stakeholders
- **Key policy options and critical details:** clarity on major socio-economic orientations and societal preferences:
 - Agricultural sector &
 - Green development patterns.

Implications



•Poverty and rural livelihood issues have gradually moved out of the agrarian domain. Agriculture and water management changes:

- integrate agriculture into the wider economy; stimulating production and consumption linkages
- More demand-based flexible water control systems and multiple-use water services.
- Focus on labour productivity for sustainable practices
- Land consolidation and expansion of farm sizes?
- Better opportunities for employment outside agricultural

Dilemmas



- Absorptive capacity of the economy
- Investing in agriculture
- Coherent, effective and feasible policies

A vision for water and food security for the Asia-Pacific by 2030



“Food and nutrition security for all and vibrant rural communities in a water-secure Asia-Pacific, through managing the region's multiple social and economic transitions equitably and sustainably.”



Investing and providing an enabling environment for farmers, civil society and the private sector in 6 Key Action Areas



1. **Water accounting and auditing:** decision-making
2. **Risk management strategies:** for national food security policies under water constraints and economic transitions
3. **Adapting agricultural and rural water management governance**
4. **Supporting investments boosting ecosystem and water productivity**
5. **Water-Energy-Food Nexus**
6. **Capacity development**

SDGs



- beyond policy coherence
- consider several SDG targets at the same time

– Aim high!