

## PANEL 2

### ***Agriculture, climate change and green growth in Africa: what role for South-South?***

Brazil's success in the agriculture sector has been based heavily on high input agro-industry that was successful in boosting productivity, with some negative implications for the environment (levelling the *cerrado*, loss of habitat, agro-chemicals, water resources, etc). Brazil is now more focused on 'doubly green revolution' approaches, where production is boosted with less environmental impact. Evidence has often suggested that managing such tradeoffs between better yield and negative environmental impact remains quite complex and requires significant policy innovation and adaptation, effective institutional frameworks and processes for engagement, access to key technologies and an enabling legal framework.

More recently, the Government of Brazil, with FAO and WFP, signed an agreement to lend support to five African countries by setting up a local food purchase programme to benefit farmers and vulnerable populations. Intensification of agricultural production could increase the high carbon-intensity of the sector and climate change presents an additional and multi-scaled challenge to such efforts. In some of the target countries, a number of the critical elements identified above for managing a number of key tradeoffs are missing, weak or in the early stages of development. While Brazil ranks as No.1 out of 28 countries on the ActionAid's Hunger-Free Scorecard assessment of overall capacity and preparedness for security, a number of African countries rank in the bottom half. Two notable areas of policy and capacity weakness for African countries, writ large, lie in (i) climate change adaptation planning and (ii) social protection. Gender policy also tends to be weak. In Brazil's multiple efforts to respond to similar challenges, particularly in its North East as well as its Centre West region, do potential additional answers for Africa exist? For example, does its National Climate Plan and agro-ecological zoning laws present relevant and adaptable models for Sub-Saharan Africa? Can its efforts towards gender equality as well as social and productive inclusion help Africa's efforts to respond to the needs of rural and women farmers? Can the pro-poor impact of agricultural R&D in China be replicated in Africa?

Rio +20 has also brought a number of these issues to the forefront of national and global policy debate, particularly in balancing multiple interests and objectives across the agriculture, food, water and energy sectors. This panel explores if and how South-South can help to deliver a new, doubly green model.

#### Guiding questions:

- Are the agricultural models being discussed through South-South exchanges environmentally-friendly/climate-resilient, pro-poor and economically-viable in the long term?
- What is the evidence that good practice in Brazil will work in Africa (technology, institutions, culture etc)? What could be some of the key factors for success?
- How relevant could be lessons from the process of engagement which involve government, civil society and the private sector be for securing a more sustainable approach to agriculture?
- What lessons emerge from Brazil's and Africa's experience in agribusiness?

#### Panel participants:

- Leisa Perch, IPC-IG (Chair)
- Jean-Marc von der Weid, AS-PTA/Articulação Nacional de Agroecologia (Speaker)
- Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda, FARNPAN, South Africa (Speaker)
- Justina Ines Cima, Movimento de Mulheres Camponesas (Speaker)
- Darana Souza, WFP, Centre of Excellence Against Hunger (Speaker)
- Kojo Amanor, University of Ghana at Legon (Discussant)