Food Security: Adapting to Climate Change

HS Dillon

Centre for Agricultural Policy Studies

Macroeconomic Impact of Climate Change: "Opportunities & Challenges" Bank Indonesia, Bali, August 1-2, 2008



The Climate Changes

State of the Debate

Food Security and Poverty

Adapt to Survive

Climate Change Chronicles: The Debate is Over

- Economic Growth has undoubtedly contributed to the current global warming
- The weak & poor always pay the highest price
- The stakes are high; if we don't act now, the quality of civilization might suffer irreversible damage

Mea Culpa???

Climate Change & Globalization The Culprit: Increasing Inequity

- OECD development policies: Food Sovereignty at All Cost
- Forced liberalization: Asymmetric Gains from Trade
- Depressed agricultural prices: Low investment, productivity → Distress push
 Urbanization ofPoverty
- Bio-fuel Subsidies: Energy Sovereignty

The Food Security Nexus





Food security:

Access for all households at all times

The recommended pathway

Food sovereignty:

Production within national borders

The road taken



Why the Food Crisis?

Bad Food Drives the Good Food Out

Imbalance Fuelled by Subsidies

Asymmetric Agricultural **Productivity**

Higher Growth (Econ, Pop) in DCs

Poor Governance of Commodity Markets

Escalating Costs of Energy - Uncontested Markets

Poor Governance in DCs



Interests at Odds

Corporations: Cheap food → Low Wages

IMF-WB: Sisters for the Status-quo → Divergence

OECD: Food & Energy Sovereignty

MDGs: Aid Giveth Little, Trade Taketh More

WTO: Rules of Convenience → Doha Collapse

Average Producer Support in OECD Countries, 2004, % of Gross Receipts

Rice	75
Sugar	58
Milk	36
Beef & Veal	34
Wheat	33
Corn	31
Oilseeds	27
Pork	21
Overall	30

Source: OECD Agriculture Directorate

Agriculture Adapts

- High Prices a Golden Opportunity
- More Infrastructure, Research, & Empowering
- More Funding for Financing & Risk Management
- Go Organic
- Decentralize Production, Buy Local

Adaptive Capacity?

Institutions, Development, & Civilization

- Geography, Institutions, & Development for All
- Governing to Governance:

Development or Deterioration?

Incentive Structures:

License to Develop or Destroy the Commons?

Profits & The People:

Predation or Partnerships for the Planet?



Paradigm Shift

Market-Driven

People-Driven

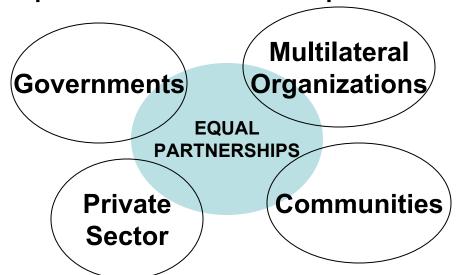
Agribusinesses Prosper

Small-holders
Disappear

All Policies, Institutions,
& Technologies
continually driven by
the Needs & Capacities
of the People

Global Governance Reform

- Fellow-travelers on the Spaceship Earth:
 all in this together now
- Consensus re comprehensive roadmap out of the crisis: Bali, Roma, Hokkaido
- Dillon: People-driven Development





Conclusions

 Greed& Complacency → Decline of Civilization

Mills: The greatest asset of public action is its ability to satisfy vaguely felt needs for higher purpose in the lives of men and women

What are We Waiting For?