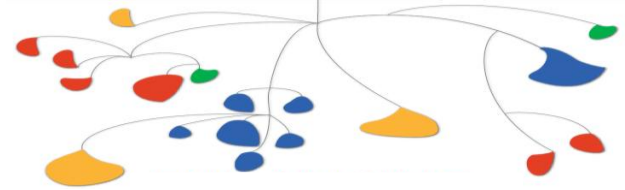


# The Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)

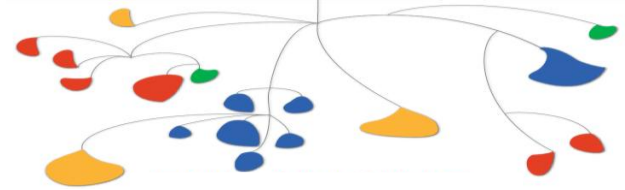
Improving food market transparency and coordination

Denis Drechsler  
Project Manager  
AMIS Secretariat, Rome



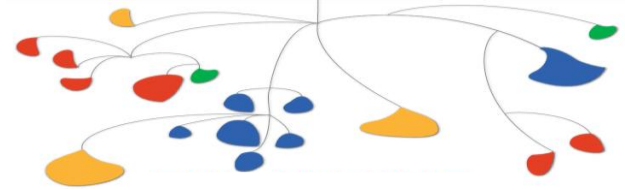
# Overview

- What is AMIS?
- Why was it created?
- How does it work?... And does it?!
- Is it important for developing countries?

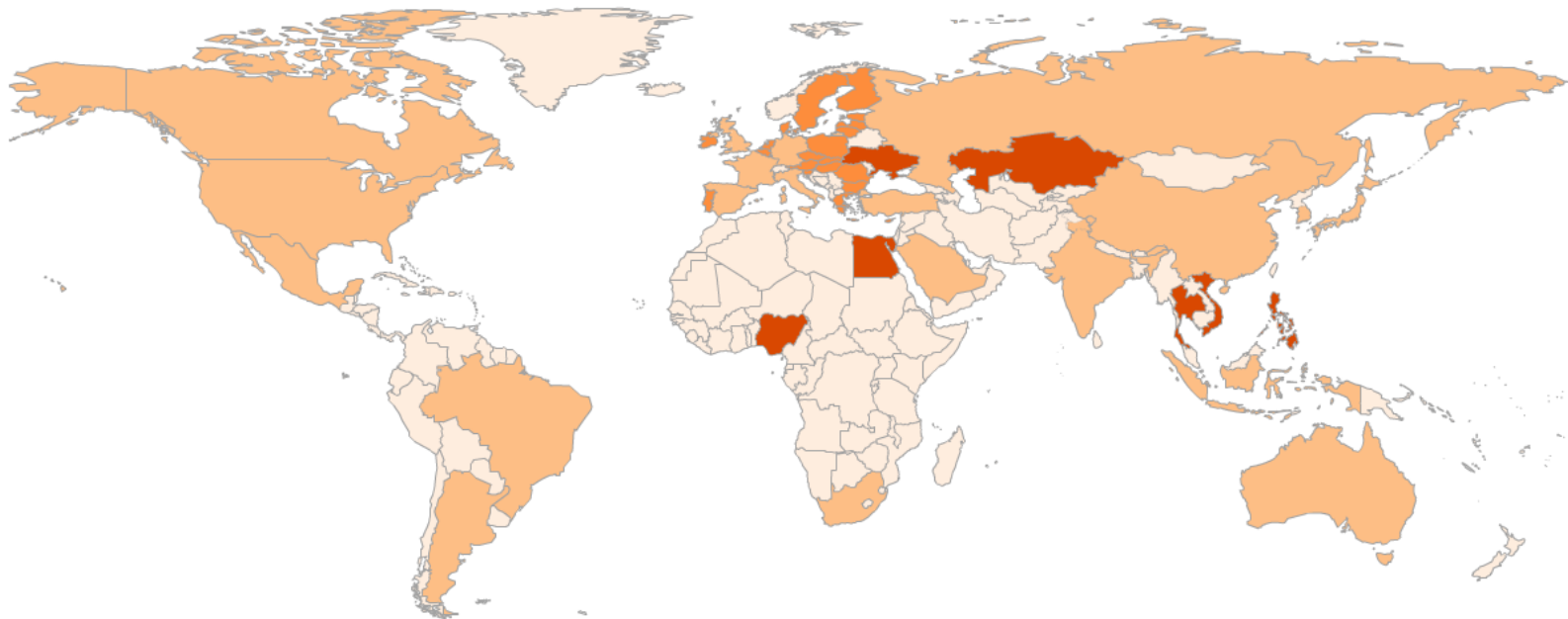





# What is AMIS?

- A G20 initiative to increase food market transparency and reduce the likelihood of food price volatility
- Focus: production, utilization, stocks, trade
- Crops: wheat, maize, rice, and soybeans
- Participants: G20 Members plus Spain and seven invited countries

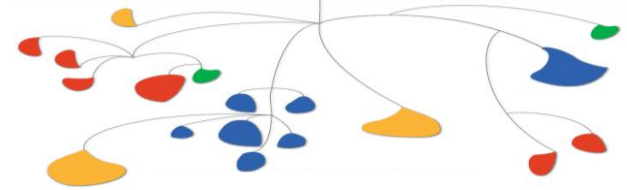


# Global coverage



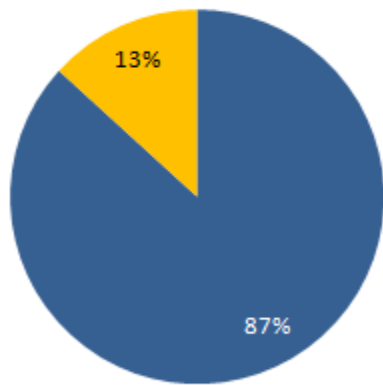
 G20 Members & Spain     Other EU Members\*     Invited Countries

\* Not participating in AMIS as individual countries, but collectively represented by the European Union



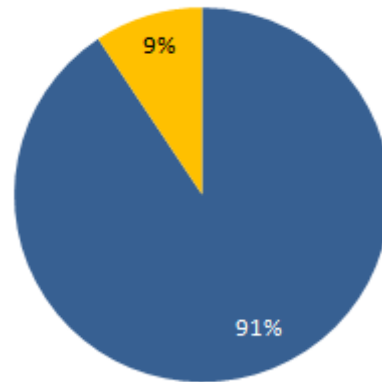
# Uniting main market players

**Wheat production**  
2009-2011 average



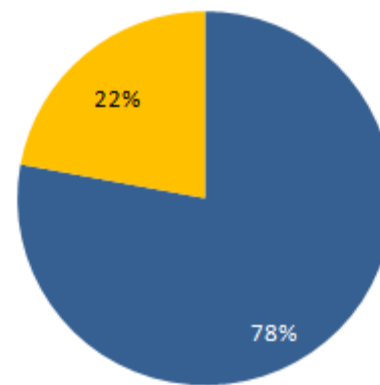
■ AMIS ■ Non-AMIS

**Maize production**  
2009-2011 average



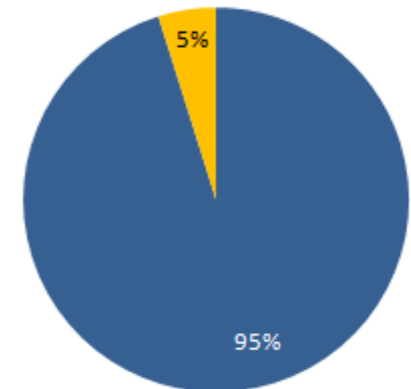
■ AMIS ■ Non-AMIS

**Rice production (milled)**  
2009-2011 average

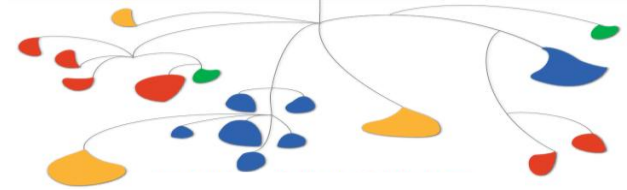


■ AMIS ■ Non-AMIS

**Soybeans production**  
2009-2011 average

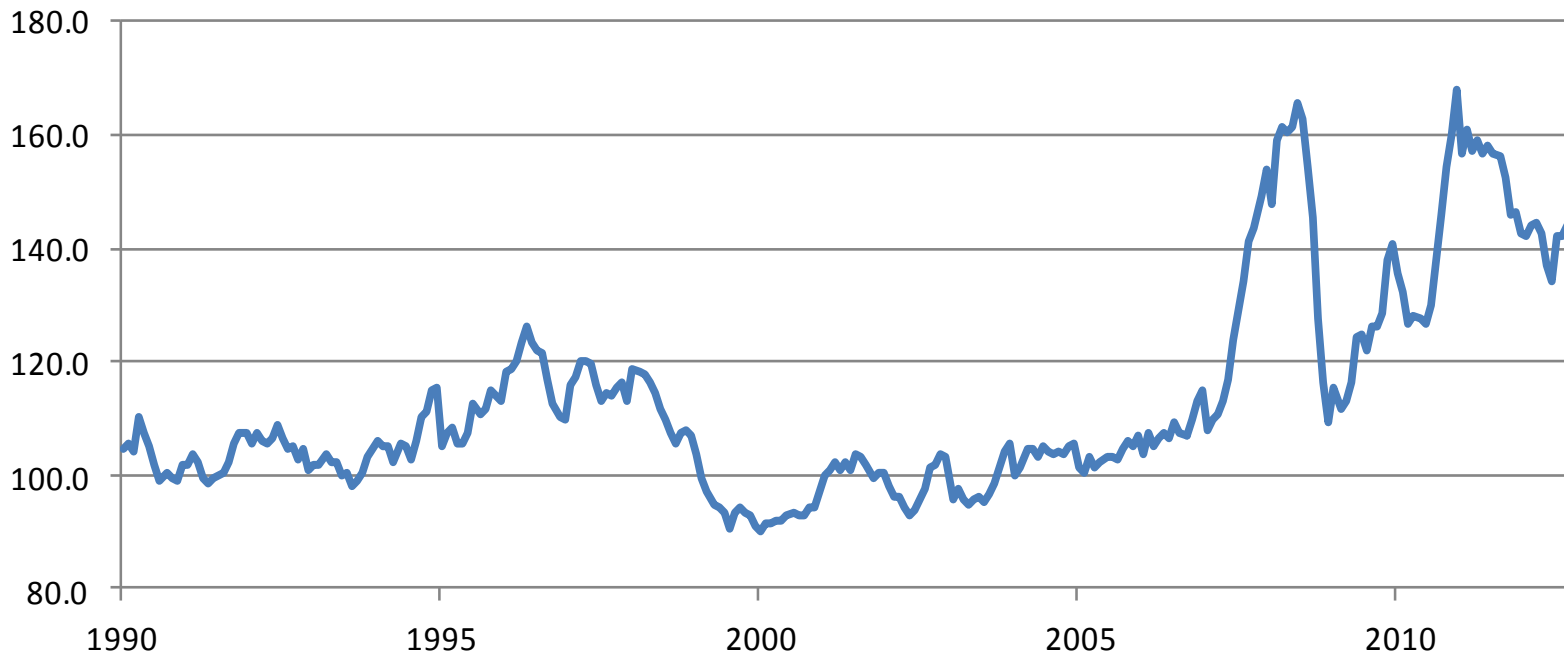


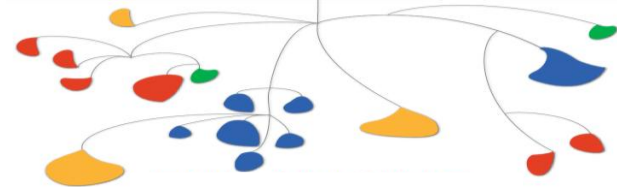
■ AMIS ■ Non-AMIS



# Why was AMIS created?

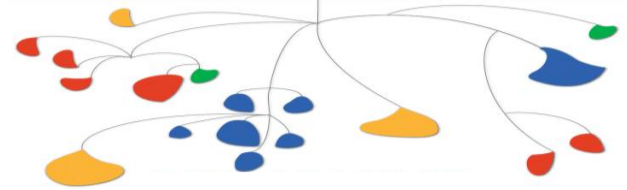
FAO Food Price Index (1990-2012)





# Sometimes triggered by policies

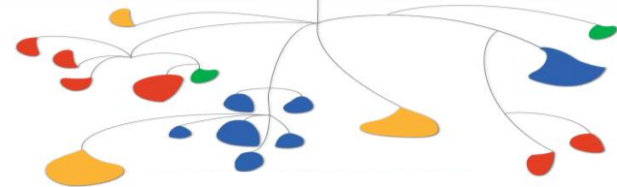




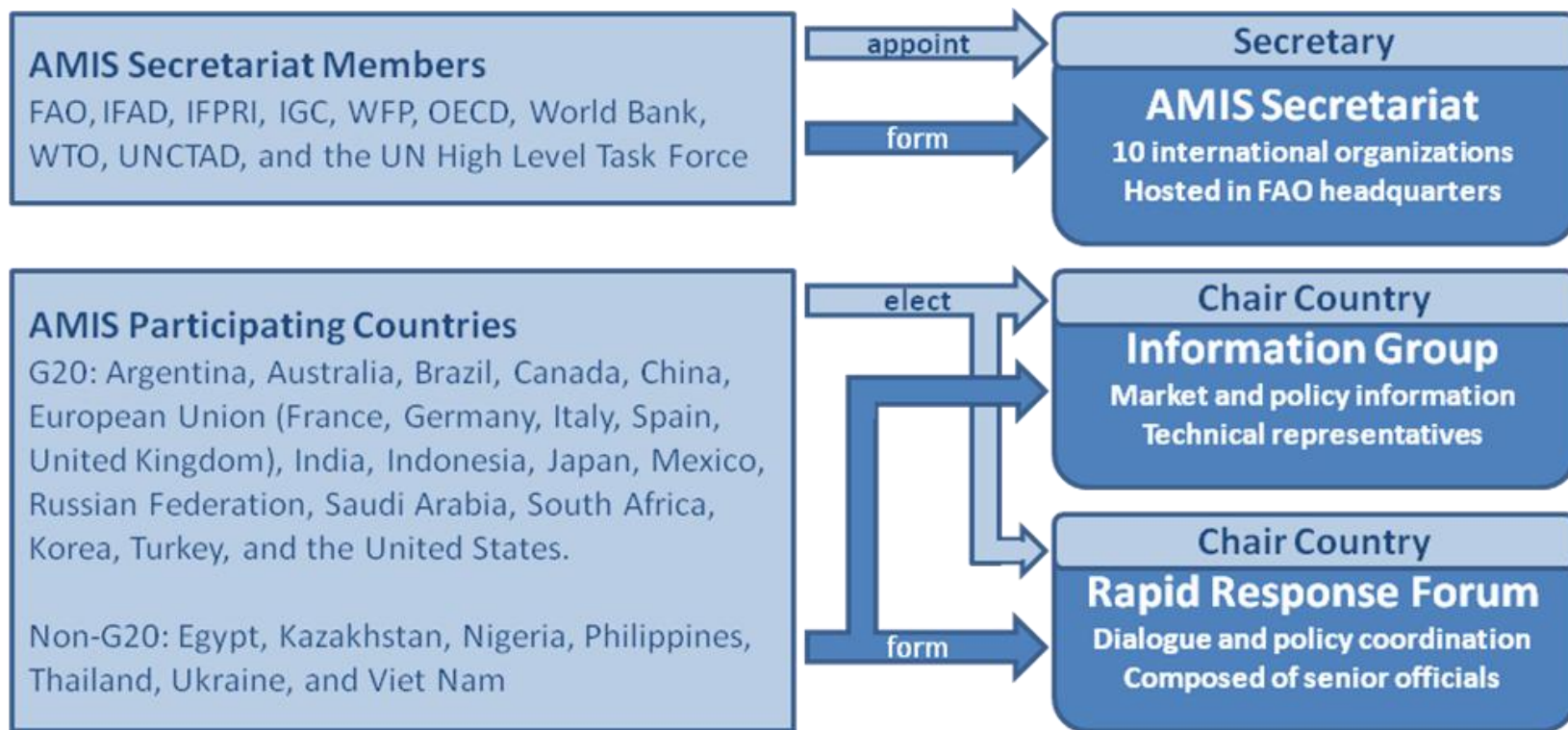
# More turmoil than in the past

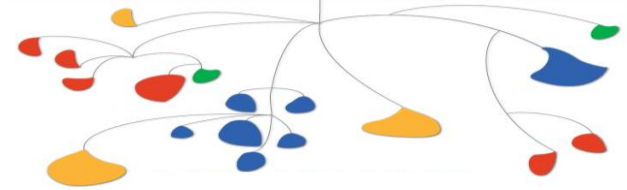
- Lower cereal stocks
- Erratic outputs from new production zones (e.g. Russia, Ukraine)
- Growing links with outside markets (energy, financial, etc.)
- Increased dependence on imports and hence world trade
- Few exporters accounting for most of the export supply
- Restrictive trade measures
- Climate change and stronger weather swings; etc.





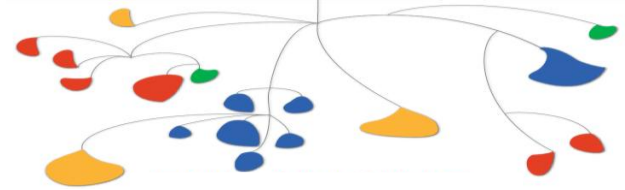
# How does AMIS work?





# Supported by a joint Secretariat

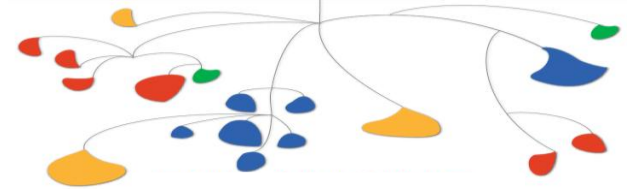




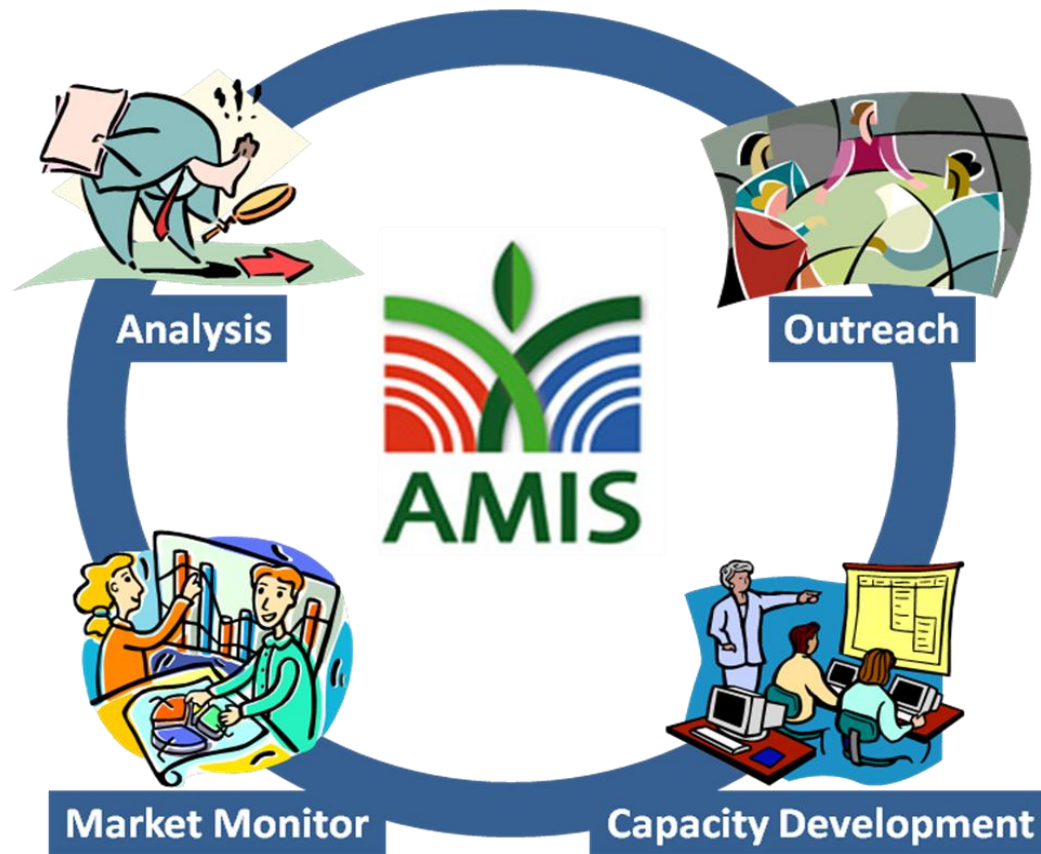
# Data collection a main element

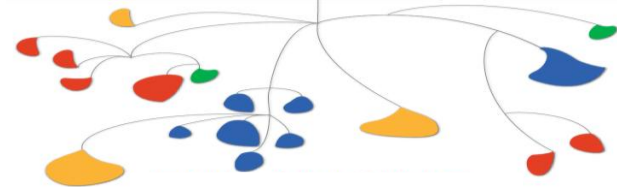
“...provide **regular reliable, accurate, timely and comparable data** regarding the supply and demand position and its probable short term development, as well as regarding prices, of the four commodities covered by AMIS”

[AMIS Terms of Reference]




# Four main pillars of work





# Monthly forecasts and analysis



## Market Monitor

Number 6 - March 2013

### AMIS Crops: World Supply-Demand Balances in 2012/13

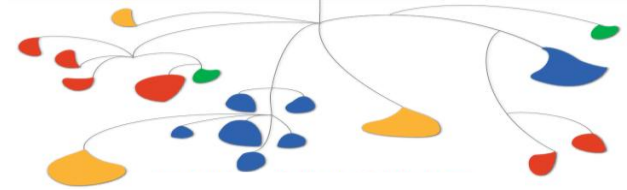
*In recent weeks wheat and maize crops benefitted from generally positive weather conditions, improving the prospects for the US wheat and the first maize crops in southern America, to be harvested soon. While the outlook for soybeans in South America deteriorated slightly, early prospects are still encouraging given larger plantings. Rice markets remain well supplied while expectations for the 2013 crops in Asia and South America are so far positive.*

	From previous month f'cast	From previous season (2011/12)
Wheat	▲	▼
Maize	■	▼
Rice	■	▲
Soybeans	■	▲

▲ Easing      ■ Neutral      ▼ Tightening

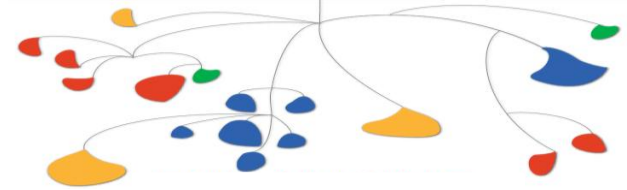
	million tonnes						
	USDA		IGC		FAO-AMIS		
	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	
WHEAT	est.	f'cast	est.	f'cast	est.	f'cast	f'cast
Production	697	654	696	656	700	662	662
Supply	895	850	890	853	880	838	840
Utilization	698	673	693	677	696	685	683
Trade	157	132	145	137	147	137	139
Ending Stocks	197	177	197	176	178	159	163

- Wheat production in 2012 fell below the record in 2011 but favourable returns combined with generally good weather likely to lead to a rebound in 2013.
- Utilization to decline in 2012/13, largely on reduced usage for animal feed purposes.
- Trade in 2012/13 to reach a higher level than previously forecast due to larger imports by the CIS countries.
- Stocks (ending 2013) to decrease less than anticipated in February, reflecting upward revisions in Russia and Ukraine.



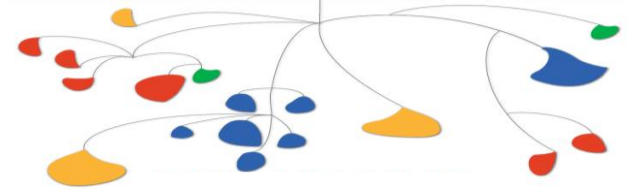
# Promoting policy dialogue



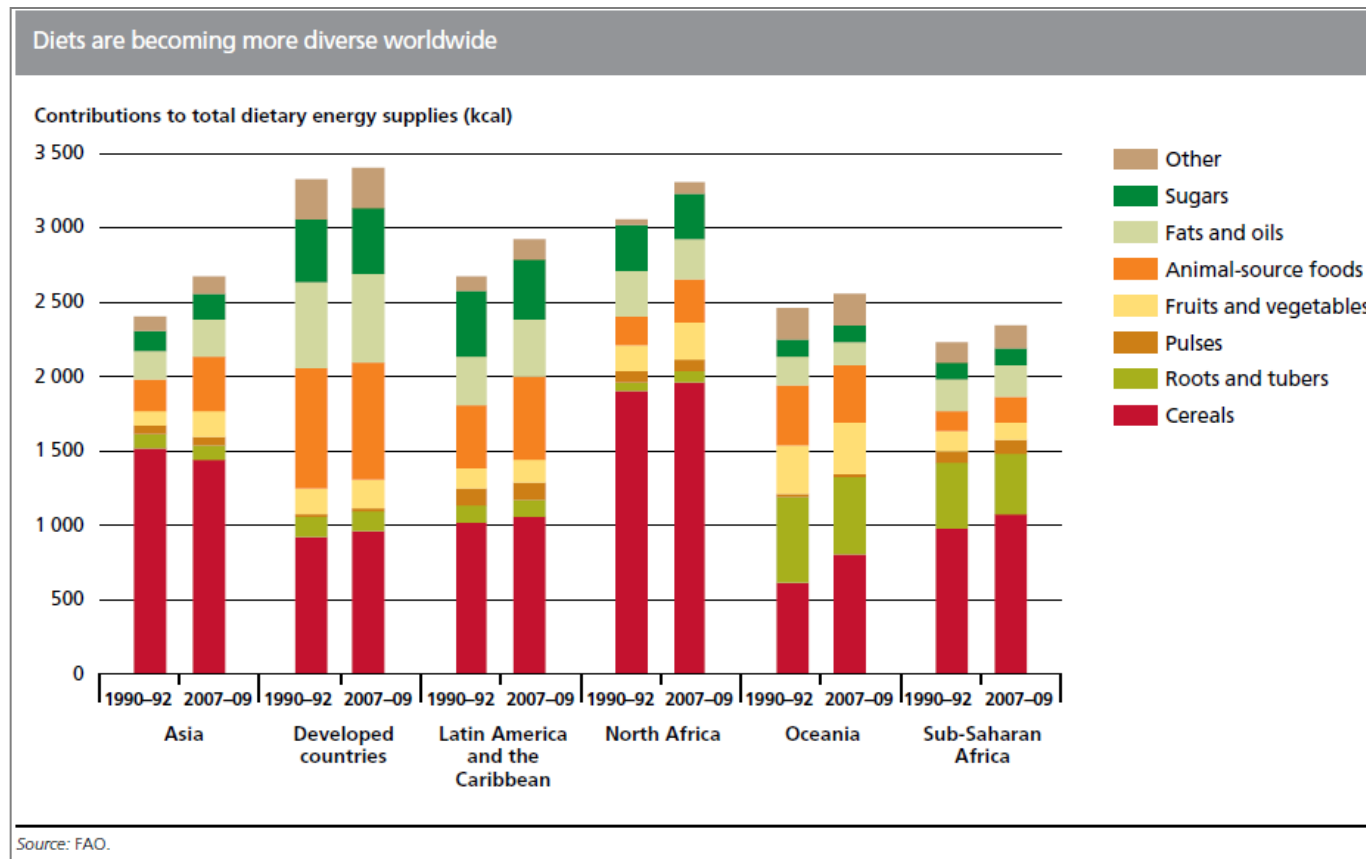


# Does it work?

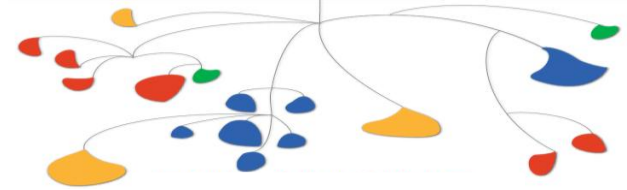




# Does it matter for developing countries?

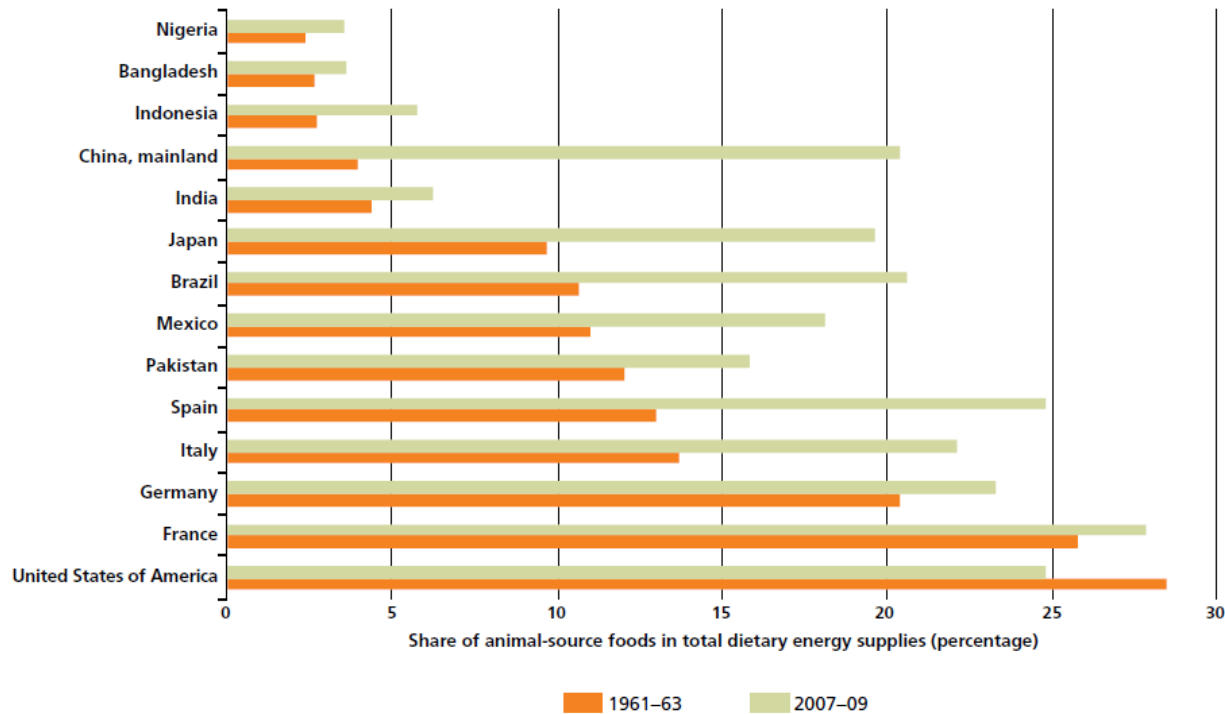




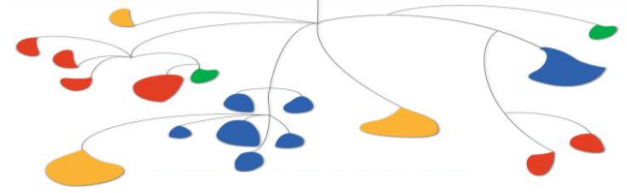


# Cereals main feed for livestock

Diets are converging towards an overall higher share of animal-source foods in most countries with fast economic growth



Source of raw data: FAO.



# Thank you

[amis-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:amis-secretariat@fao.org)