



Panel 1 – Global leadership for responsible private investments in agrifood value chains

- Private sector engagement is key to realising the potential of the food and agriculture sector and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with the leadership of international financial institutions (IFIs) essential to unlocking investment and increasing capacity.
- Enhancing IFI cooperation and drawing on each other's strengths should be prioritised.
- The new EBRD Agribusiness Strategy fits well into the theme highlighted by the panel of responding to demand-driven investment.

Panel 2 - Investing responsibly across borders

- Successful cross-border investment and the development of growth opportunities combine partnerships, expertise and innovation.
- Ensuring SME access to finance and technology, as well as linking them to global value chains, would help facilitate the SDGs.
- Public-private dialogue initiatives have delivered policy and business environment improvements, which have driven investment; the public-private dialogue approach is strongly supported by all participants.

Panel 3 - Managing risks in value chain financing

- Financial tools such as blended finance and risk mitigation can be a good way to reach the less or non-bankable sector players and value chains.
- There is considerable scope for IFIs to share and learn from best practices.
- There is a large gap between SME and corporate finance and the IFIs should close that gap.

Panel 4 - Investing in sustainable soil management

- Substantial challenges lie ahead for the sector, such as productivity decline linked to soil degradation, and their effect on food production demands consideration.
- Technology and practices are available for sustainable soil management and there are positive examples of their application; revisiting these interventions can help their broader adoption.

- Knowledge platforms and pilot projects (including via IFI projects) can provide demonstrative effects and facilitate technology adoption in the private sector.
- Many issues will, however, require public sector engagement to internalise externalities linked to capturing the value of carbon storage, which will require innovative solutions.

Panel 5 - Strengthening agrifood value chains through inclusion of youth and women

- There is a strong business case for inclusion but to unlock the potential of youth and women it is necessary to demonstrate the benefits of doing so, particularly to SMEs; the Moroccan experience shows that empowering women can deliver practical results.
- The inclusion of women in the productive process has been improved by targeted financial training; however systemic barriers remain, especially in the legal framework.
- Financial products for the inclusion of women have been well received and there is potential for similar products centred on youth inclusion.

Panel 6 – The digital revolution in agrifood value chains

- New technologies keep emerging, ranging from blockchain to sophisticated insurance mechanisms de-risking agriculture through satellite data.
- Capturing the benefits and overcoming the constraints to developing these technologies in emerging economies should be the focus of stronger IFI collaboration.
- Improvements in the quality and integrity of data can help further fuel the digital revolution in agriculture.