



LUISS SCHOOL OF LAW

"FOOD LAW: the legal profiles of the
complex world of food"

The role of UN organizations

The Permanent Representation

- Italy's Permanent Representation to the United Nations' **RBA**s is tasked with maintaining and strengthening the country's diplomatic relations with **FAO**, **WFP** and **IFAD**, as well as with **IDLO** for the promotion of the rule of law and development, and **Bioversity International**, a global research center for the development of agricultural biodiversity.

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- FAO, WFP and IFAD are united by their focus on providing food security, improving the nutritional status of worldwide populations and contributing to sustainable agriculture.



Agenda 2030

- The **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** show the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. The SDGs seek to build on the **Millennium Development Goals** and complete what these could not achieve, by changing the overall mindset.
- They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: **economic, social, environmental plus 'peace'**.
- **4Ps** stand for People, Planet, Prosperity e Peace.
- New Agenda add a other P: **Partnerships**

Agenda 2030 and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

- The new **Global Goals** cover more ground, with the ambition of addressing topics such as inequalities, economic growth, decent jobs, cities and human settlements, industrialization, oceans, ecosystems, energy, climate change, sustainable consumption and production, peace and justice.
- The new Goals are **universal and apply to all countries**, whereas the **MDGs** were intended for action in developing countries only.



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- **SDG 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere (supported by **FAO**)
 - **SDG 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture (supported by **WFP, FAO, IDLO, BIODIVERSITY, UNHRD, CFS**)
 - **SDG 4:** Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning (**IDLO**)
 - **SDG 5:** Gender equality (**FAO, WFP, IFAD, IDLO**)
 - **SDG 6:** Ensure access to water and sanitation for all (**FAO, BIO**)
 - **SDG 10:** Reduce inequality within and among countries (**IDLO**)
 - **SDG 13:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (**WFP, BIO**)
 - **SDG 15:** Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss (**BIO**)
 - **SDG 16:** Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies (**IDLO**)
 - **SDG 17:** Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (**WFP**)

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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- FAO provides technical support to countries that request assistance to **develop their agricultural sector** and to design programs and policies to reduce hunger and malnutrition.



- FAO also assists member countries in economic planning, law drafting and in implementing rural development strategies.

Membership :

- FAO has **197** members: 194 States, a member organization, the **European Union** (since 1991) and two associate members: the Faroe Islands and Tokelau (Basic Text of FAO Art. I & II)
- FAO has 3 main organs: the **General Director**, the **Conference of the Member States**, and the **Council**.

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- The structure of FAO's Governing Bodies includes different committees that deal with specific issues; **Programme Committee (PC)**, **Finance Committee (FC)** and **Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM)**.



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- FAO is funded entirely through compulsory and voluntary contributions acquired from members.



- FAO's total budget for the 2016-17 period amounts to **USD 2.6 billion**, of which about one billion comes from mandatory contributions made by member states and 1.6 billion comes from voluntary contributions.

The World Food Programme (WFP)



WFP

United Nations
World Food
Programme

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- WFP is the world's largest humanitarian organization, and provides food assistance to fight hunger (art. II Rules & Regulations)
 - During emergencies it intervenes to assist victims of wars, civil conflicts and natural disasters.
 - Once the emergency has been resolved, the organization helps people rebuild their lives and those of the communities in which they live.



The main objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan:

- **End Hunger** → everyone has access to food;
- **Improve nutrition** → no one suffers from malnutrition;
- **Achieve food security** → smallholders have improved food security and nutrition; food systems are sustainable;
- **Support SDGs implementation** → countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs; policies are coherent;
- **Partner for SDGs results** → financial resources, partnerships and sharing knowledge for development.

WFP focuses its post-relief and development (known as “resilience”) actions on projects and programs:

- School Feeding,
- Food for Work and Food for Training,
- Purchase for Progress (P4P),
- Cash & Voucher,
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Mitigation.



Membership :

- WFP is managed by an **Executive Board** composed of **36** representatives of their member states, elected by rotation. (art. V Rules & Regulations)
- The Programme is led by an **Executive Director**, who holds the office for five renewable years and is tasked with managing WFP, implementing programmes and projects.

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- WFP is funded solely on a **voluntary basis**, with contributions from governments, private companies and individuals.
 - The Program receives donations in the form of money, food and equipments needed to grow, store and cook food. The budget for 2016 is USD 4,3 billions.



United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)



WFP

wfp.org

UNHRD NETWORK
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE DEPOT

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- UNHRD, managed by WFP, is a network of six strategically **located depots** that procure, store, and transport emergency supplies on behalf of the **humanitarian community**.
 - It focuses on **emergency preparedness and rapid response**, and enables the strategic stockpiling of relief items and equipment for its Partners, including UN agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations (78 partners).

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- UNHRD is based in **Brindisi** and offers a range of services at no cost such as warehousing, storage, inspection and handling, procurement, transport, repackaging and kitting.



International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)



Enabling poor rural people
to overcome poverty

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- IFAD is an international **financial institution** and a specialized **agency of the United Nations**, with the specific aim of financing agricultural development in rural areas of developing countries whilst combating hunger and rural poverty.

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- IFAD fights poverty not only by lending money, but also by placing investments in small-scale family farming in rural areas at the heart of the international investment policy agenda. It promotes programmes and projects to the benefit of small farmers in developing countries.





Membership :

- The governing body of the Fund is the **Board of Governors**, which meets once a year with the participation of all member states (176 states).
- The **Executive Board** is made of 18 members and 18 alternates, elected for a term of three years.

There are three strategic objectives:

- increase the **production capacity** of rural populations;
- increase **access** of rural populations to markets;
- strengthen **environmental sustainability** and **climate resilience** of the economic activities of rural populations.



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- IFAD's financial resources come from various sources and include its initial capital, **investments income, loans and contributions** raised from member countries and multilateral institutions.
 - For 2016 the operational budget amounts to **146.71 millions US dollars** and the Programme of Loans and Grants (POLG) amounts to **USD 900 millions**.



Committee on World Food Security (CFS)



CFS

Committee on
World Food
Security

- The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) is the only forum where States, RBAs, civil society and private sector meet for global discussions on food security and nutrition.



- CFS is a inter-agencies body set up to enable the process for implementing the sustainable development goals set in the 2030 Agenda

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- The Committee reports to the UN General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and to the FAO Conference
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- CFS has a permanent **Secretariat** at FAO, which includes members of the three UN agencies based in Rome (FAO, IFAD, WFP).
- The **Bureau** is the executive body of CFS and comprises the chairperson and 12 representatives of member countries, chosen on an individual basis, two per regional group.
- CFS' financial plan provides a core budget for its routine activities, funded by the three Rome-based agencies, as well as funds for other activities.

International Development Law Organization (IDLO)



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- IDLO is an intergovernmental body based in Rome, whose mission is to promote **rule of law** and practices of **good governance** in developing countries, those in economic transition, and those recovering from armed conflicts.
 - IDLO staff is made of **international lawyers** specialized in key issues such as legal reform, international trade law and public procurement, environmental law, legal empowerment and right to food.

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- IDLO is managed by a Director General, elected by the Assembly of Parties for a four-year term, renewable.
 - The Assembly of Parties convenes IDLO member states and observers once a year.
 - IDLO receives voluntary contributions both for specific projects and for general operations. Support is provided by bilateral donors, multilateral organizations, private foundations, private sector and individuals. The budget for 2016 is 34 million euros.

The 4 impact goals of the draft Strategic Plan 2017-20 are:

1. People and groups are empowered to realize their rights
2. Institutions are effective, accessible and accountable
3. Laws and policies are fair and implemented equitably
4. Rule of law drives sustainable development at local and global levels



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- The geographic proximity to the UN **Rome Based Agencies** is fostering **synergies** and giving added impetus to IDLO's work.
 - How rule-of-law principles can be used to:
 - enhance food security;
 - promote non-discriminatory access to food;
 - embed a gender perspective into food policies;
 - make the right to food justiciable in courts.

(Draft Strategic Plan IDLO 2017-2021)

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- IDLO seeks to promote and protect the **right to food** by using its strong capacity for legal analysis and research, its operational capacity to provide technical assistance and its voice to advocate for the key contributions that the rule of law and human rights make to sustainable development.





Realizing the Right to Food:

- The paper '**Realizing the Right to Food**' (made by IDLO) provides a practical and substantive resource on using legal strategies and approaches to advance the realization of the right to food.
- It examines relevant national, regional, and international case law to provide key lessons and identify entry points for legal strategies and approaches.
- The study is intended to be used by anyone working to promote and protect the right to food, including legal professionals, civil-society actors and university and research centres.

BIOVERSITY INTERNATIONAL



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- Bioversity International is the largest international organization dealing with **conservation** and the **application** of **biodiversity** in agriculture and forestry.
 - They work with partners in low-income countries in different regions where agricultural and tree biodiversity can contribute to **improved nutrition, resilience, productivity** and **climate change** adaptation.



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- Bioversity International is governed by a **Board of Trustees** that meets twice a year.
 - The Board of Trustees appoints the **Director General** to act as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The Director General oversees Bioversity International's operations and management and ensures that its programmes and objectives are properly developed and carried out.

