
Agriculture, Food and Beverage Dynamic Briefing

Generated 29 January 2020 for Marco Antonio Gonzalez

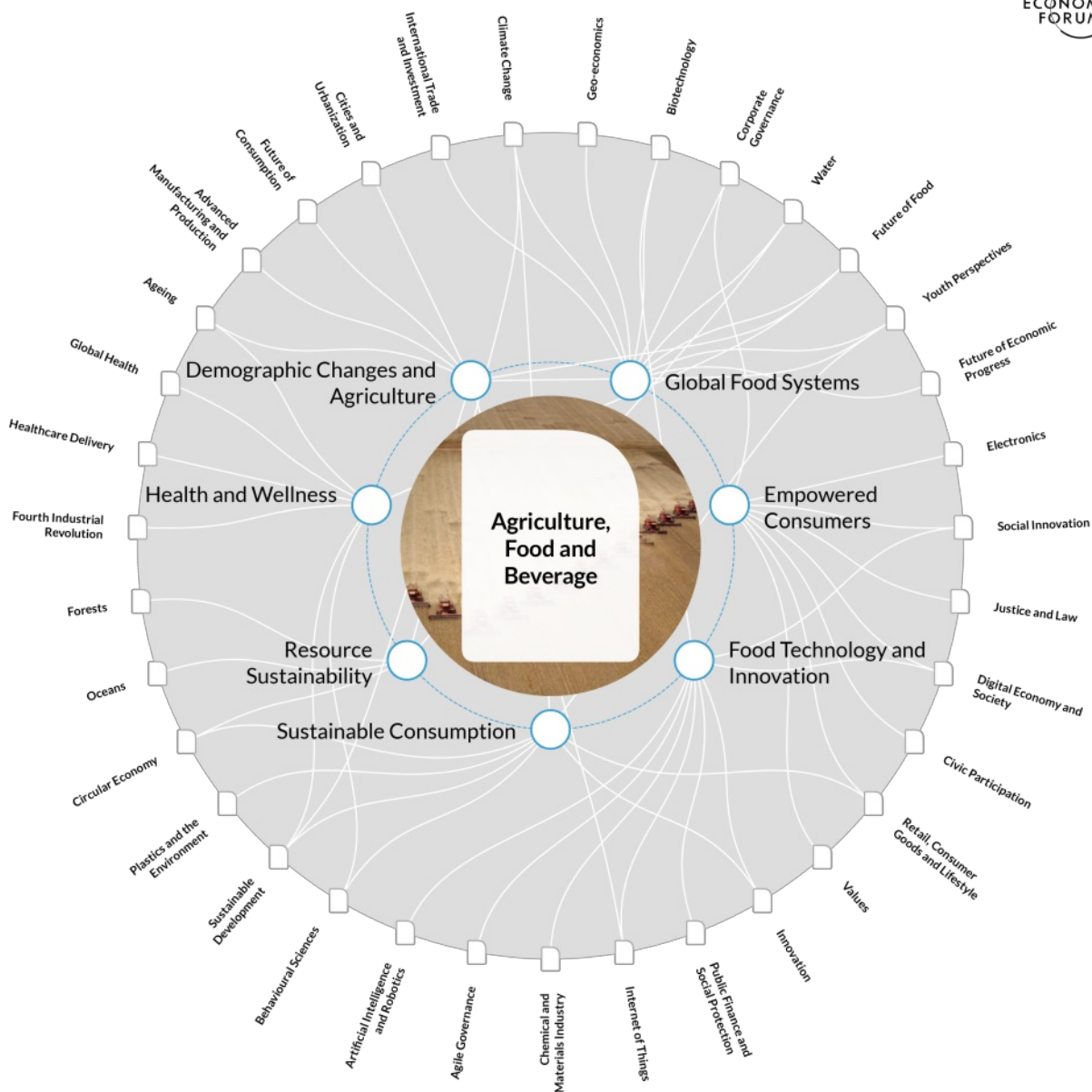


Agriculture, Food and Beverage

Last review on Mon 04 November 2019

About

This dynamic briefing draws on the collective intelligence of the Forum network to explore the key trends, interconnections and interdependencies between industry, regional and global issues. In the briefing, you will find a visual representation of this topic (Transformation Map – interactive version available online via intelligence.weforum.org), an overview and the key trends affecting it, along with summaries and links to the latest research and analysis on each of the trends. Briefings for countries also include the relevant data from the Forum’s benchmarking indices. The content is continuously updated with the latest thinking of leaders and experts from across the Forum network, and with insights from Forum meetings, projects communities and activities.



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Executive summary

The global population is expected to increase from roughly 7.7 billion to nearly 10 billion by 2050, and demand for cereals to be used as food for both humans and animals may grow to roughly 3 billion tonnes by that point from about 2 billion tonnes as of 2009. Agricultural systems must better address climate change, water and land resources that are becoming scarce, and increasingly volatile food prices as they seek to feed a growing global populace. Meanwhile food companies must adapt to shifting consumption patterns, and play a greater role in promoting health and wellness.

1. Global Food Systems

Food systems are inefficient, leading to significant waste even as chronic hunger affects millions.

2. Empowered Consumers

Data, social networks and mobile technology are granting greater power to consumers.

3. Food Technology and Innovation

Technology innovation can help transform global food systems.

4. Sustainable Consumption

Consumers need encouragement to make more sustainable choices.

5. Resource Sustainability

Rising demand and climate change are threatening global food systems.

6. Health and Wellness

The private sector plays an important role in fighting malnutrition and obesity.

7. Demographic Changes and Agriculture

As people get older and wealthier, expectations for food and beverage offerings will change.

Global Food Systems

Food systems are inefficient, leading to significant waste even as chronic hunger affects millions

The world's population is projected to increase from about 7.6 billion as of 2017 to more than 9.7 billion by 2050, according to the United Nations' World Population Prospects: the 2017 Revision. This increase, coupled with an expanding global middle class that is demanding higher-quality food, will require a near doubling of current food production levels, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, or FAO. As global food systems become increasingly interconnected, effective coordination among a diverse set of stakeholders will be required.

There are significant inefficiencies in food systems. About one third of all the food produced in the world is lost or wasted post-harvest, according to the FAO, while about 815 million people the world remain chronically undernourished. A lack of storage and infrastructure, and a dearth of market information for small farmers, are key reasons for food losses that occur before goods can reach consumers. The potential to craft new, systemic approaches to food systems that include a diverse array of stakeholders presents opportunities to help sustainably feed the world well into the future. One related effort, a US government program called Feed the Future, has appealed to businesses and universities to get involved; according to Feed the Future, it has enabled more than 3 million children to live free from stunting, and helped farmers to generate more than \$10 billion in new agricultural sales between 2011 and 2017.

Related insight areas: [International Trade and Investment](#), [Climate Change](#), [Geo-economics](#), [Biotechnology](#), [Corporate Governance](#), [Water](#), [Future of Food](#), [Youth Perspectives](#), [Future of Economic Progress](#)



[The New Humanitarian](#)
Urgent action needed to stop locust invasion in eastern Africa

23 January 2020

Millions are at risk of hunger and losses in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya as unprecedented swarms ruin crops, pasture, and vital forest cover.



[World Economic Forum](#)
Can collective action cure what's ailing our food systems?

22 January 2020

The Food Action Alliance aims to address the world's fragmented agricultural production – and make our food systems more efficient.



[South African Institute of International Affairs \(SAIIA\)](#)
G20 compact with Africa: Consolidating and accelerating Rwanda's transformation agenda

21 January 2020

Rwanda harnessed the G20 Compact with Africa (CwA) initiative as a framework to accelerate and consolidate its economic transformation agenda in line with the country's Vision 2050.



[Australian Strategic Policy Institute](#)
Australia must adapt to a new climate reality

20 January 2020

The future international environment is now coming into focus. It doesn't look promising. Government approaches to defence and human security will need to undergo a radical reassessment if they are to ameliorate the adverse effects. ...



[World Economic Forum](#)
Why it's time to stop treating the soil like dirt

19 January 2020

Soil is an incomparable source of food security, biodiversity and carbon capture – we must work with the farmer to protect it.



[Asian Development Bank](#)
Think services, not only manufacturing

17 January 2020

To offset the declining benefits of manufacturing, governments must increase the productivity of the services sector. This will boost growth and offer employment opportunities.



[Bruegel](#)
A trillion reasons to scrutinise the Green Deal Investment Plan

15 January 2020

The European Commission has revealed its €1 trillion investment plan for the European Green Deal. This will not be enough to unleash the expected "green investment wave". For that to happen, more must be done.

Empowered Consumers

Data, social networks and mobile technology are granting greater power to consumers

People can now instantly compare prices, review products, and share information on social networks about prospective purchases using their mobile phones. Mobile broadband prices have declined sharply during the past three years, while the number of mobile-broadband subscriptions has increased by more than 20% over the past five years, according to a 2017 report published by the International Telecommunications Union. Companies must now accommodate more digitally literate consumers, while also managing misinformation about their brands that can occasionally spread online.

Advances in technology have led to increased scrutiny for the food and beverage industry. Companies are under greater pressure to establish responsible and traceable processes, and to share them openly with the public. Legislation has been crafted to enforce requirements related to consumers' right to information, including a labelling requirement for genetically-modified ingredients passed in the US in 2016, and a European Union regulation on the provision of food information (including through labelling and advertising) to consumers, which went into effect that same year. In 2018, the European Commission adopted new rules on the labelling of primary ingredients in food, which require that the origin of primary ingredients must be indicated if different from the origin of the food itself, in order to not deceive consumers. The new rules are expected to go into effect in 2020.

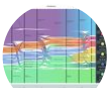
Related insight areas: [Corporate Governance](#), [Electronics](#), [Social Innovation](#), [Justice and Law](#), [Digital Economy and Society](#), [Civic Participation](#), [Retail](#), [Consumer Goods and Lifestyle](#), [Values](#)



Project Syndicate
Combating Child Labor in Global Supply Chains

23 January 2020

According to the OECD, 28-43% of the child labor that is estimated to contribute to exports does so indirectly, through preceding links in supply chains (such as extraction of raw materials or agriculture). But with a holistic approach that engages governments, corporations, and civil society, the practice can be ended – and quickly.



World Economic Forum
The world needs a circular economy. Help us make it happen

22 January 2020

Business-as-usual is no longer a viable option; our sustainable future depends on transitioning to a circular economy. Here's what we are doing to make that happen, and how you can help.



German Institute for International and Security Affairs
A Stable Countryside for a Stable Country?

19 January 2020

The Effects of a DCFTA with the EU on Tunisian Agriculture ■ Agriculture is central to the stability of Tunisia's economy and society. The new Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) under negotiation with the EU offers opportunities for the agricultural sector, but also presents risks for the country as a whole. ■ Within Tunisia there is strong emotional resistance to the DCFTA.



World Economic Forum
SDG500: the fund kickstarting sustainable investment

19 January 2020

The SDGs could be worth \$12 trillion, but they've been slow to attract finance. SDG500 is a new multistakeholder investment initiative to change that.



World Economic Forum
9 reasons to be optimistic about tech in 2020

17 January 2020

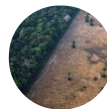
2020 is the year that some of the most-hyped technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will reach full maturity and begin to deliver on their promise.



World Resources Institute
8 Environment and Development Stories to Watch in the New Make-or-Break Decade

15 January 2020

2020 will inevitably be a turning point for the environment. Key decisions on climate change, the ocean and biodiversity will determine if it is a turning point for the better or for the worse.



Project Syndicate
A Transformative Deal for Nature

15 January 2020

In less than one year, delegates from around the world will gather in Kunming, China, to complete a new global agreement for protecting and conserving the world's natural systems. To succeed, they must bring together not just environmentalists, but also officials with the clout to effect change across entire economies.

Food Technology and Innovation

Technology innovation can help transform global food systems

Billions of people around the world are poorly nourished, millions of farmers must live at a subsistence level, enormous amounts of food go to waste, and poor farming practices are taking a toll on the environment. Achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goals will require the transformation of food systems, so that they become more inclusive, sustainable, efficient, and nourishing. This calls for improved policy, increased investment, and expanded infrastructure, in addition to building more capacity for farmers, changing consumer behaviour, and improving resource management. Until recently, the food and agriculture sectors were slow to adopt technologies driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution like the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, and blockchain; there have been low levels of related investment, inspiring relatively few related startups. A total of just \$14 billion was invested in about 1,000 food systems-focused startups between 2010 and 2018, according to the World Economic Forum report *Innovation With a Purpose: the Role of Technology Innovation in Accelerating Food System Transformation*. By way of comparison, \$145 billion was invested in approximately 18,000 healthcare-related startups over the same period.

Fragmented rural markets, poor infrastructure, and heavy regulatory burdens raise costs for food systems firms, while revenue is often constrained by customers' limited ability or willingness to pay. In addition, much of the food systems startup activity to date has been concentrated on improving production in developed countries - which can result in less access to new solutions in developing countries. The Forum, in collaboration with McKinsey & Company, has highlighted technology applications that present emerging opportunities to improve consumer nutrition, increase supply-chain efficiency and transparency, and boost farmer productivity and profitability. While many are in early stages, they could deliver significant positive impacts for food systems by 2030. For example, if consumers were able to replace between 10% and 15% of the meat they consume with alternative proteins by 2030, total greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture could drop by between 5% and 8%, freshwater withdrawals for agriculture could be reduced by between 7% and 12%, and between 5% and 10% of the total land used for agriculture could be freed up for other uses.

Related insight areas: [Innovation](#), [Biotechnology](#), [Public Finance and Social Protection](#), [Internet of Things](#), [Social Innovation](#), [Chemical and Materials Industry](#), [Agile Governance](#), [Artificial Intelligence and Robotics](#), [Digital Economy and Society](#)



Harvard Business School Working Knowledge
Businesses Need a 'Catalyst' to Make CSR Practices Stick

23 January 2020

Despite best intentions, many corporate social responsibility programs fail. One answer: Companies need community partners to sustain work over the long term, says Robert Kaplan.



NextBillion
The Hidden Value of Untapped Ideas: Three Development Sector Approaches that Deserve a Second Look

22 January 2020

Here are three ideas that the social sector discarded – or never considered in the first place – which could help solve Africa's development challenges.



Frontiers
How Social Capital Affects Environmental Performance in China

21 January 2020

Chinese society's unique characteristics present challenges with regard to discovering new ways to tackle tremendous environmental problems. This paper examines the effect of provincial social capital on environmental performance in China. In the first stage of the analysis, we measured the environmental performance levels of the 2011–2017 panel data of 30 provinces in China. We did this using data envelopment analysis (DEA). After introducing the concept of social capital, we innovatively built the social capital index system based on China's national conditions and measured social capital data from three perspectives. Then, we used the Probit regression model to explore the effect of social capital on environmental performance.



The New Humanitarian
Building a safety net for Zimbabwe's urban poor

20 January 2020

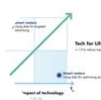
Almost half the population of the Harare suburb of Epworth are food insecure, and almost one in three children is stunted due to poor nutrition.



World Economic Forum
How can businesses accelerate the transition to a circular economy?

20 January 2020

The circular economy's true impact will only occur when companies deploy circular business models and disruptive technologies in a holistic manner. Here's a guide.



World Economic Forum
Here's how to restore trust in technology

20 January 2020

The Tech for Life movement can help businesses find their purpose and drive change.



Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania - Knowledge@Wharton
E-commerce and Consumers: Can Retailers Meet Rising Demands?

15 January 2020

When consumers order online, they want what they want -- and fast. Industry leaders discussed the latest strategies for e-commerce at the Baker Retailing Center CEO Summit in New York City.

Sustainable Consumption

Consumers need encouragement to make more sustainable choices

There were about 3.2 billion people in the middle class as of 2016, already spending a total of roughly \$35 trillion annually - and roughly 140 million people are now joining the middle class every year, according to a 2017 report published by the Brookings Institution. Nearly 90% of these new entrants are in Asia, according to the report. Consumers in emerging economies in Asia and elsewhere aspire to high-consumption, western lifestyles. Efforts to encourage sustainability therefore need to expand beyond a focus on production, and pay greater attention to this growing consumer group. Only about 13% of consumers are willing to pay more for green products, according to the results of a study published in 2017 by the Network for Business Sustainability. Meanwhile about one third of the food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally (or about 1.3 billion tons per year), according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Companies must try to shift consumer behaviour towards greater sustainability. The World Economic Forum's Engaging Tomorrow's Consumer project spawned the "Collectively" digital platform, which featured founding companies including Coca-Cola and Unilever and was designed to inspire young people with stories about a more sustainable future. According to data published in the Forum's Engaging Tomorrow's Consumer Project Report 2015, 93% of millennials say they would buy a product because it is associated with a cause. The Fourth Industrial Revolution, which is being fuelled by converging strains of rampant technology innovation, is enabling business models that can better drive sustainability - such as the so-called sharing economy model exemplified by Uber's ride-hailing service, or Airbnb's rental service. The sharing economy is expected to grow in value from \$14 billion as of 2014 to \$335 billion by 2025, according to the Brookings Institution.

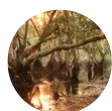
Related insight areas: [Behavioural Sciences](#), [Sustainable Development](#), [Youth Perspectives](#), [Climate Change](#), [Innovation](#), [Retail](#), [Consumer Goods and Lifestyle](#), [Plastics and the Environment](#), [Circular Economy](#)



Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization
APL Psychological Capital of Women in Flower Growing Business: An Analysis of Japan and Sri Lanka -

23 January 2020

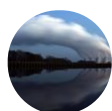
Abstract: Psychological Capital (PsyCap) is a positive psychological state and resource characterized by optimism, self-efficacy, hope, and resilience. The present study reports about the use of PsyCap in the flower growing business in Japan and Sri Lanka. The results show that the flower growers in both countries have high levels of PsyCap, which is positively related to their performance and well-being. The study also found that the flower growers in Sri Lanka have higher levels of PsyCap than those in Japan. This suggests that the flower growing business in Sri Lanka may be more conducive to the development of PsyCap than that in Japan.



The Conversation
Palm oil: research shows that new plantations produce double the emissions of mature ones

22 January 2020

Researchers found that palm oil plantations up to five years old were more harmful to the climate than already established ones.



Frontiers
Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Cropping and Grazed Pastures Are Similar: A Simulation Analysis in Australia

21 January 2020

The agricultural sector has potential to provide greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation by sequestering soil organic carbon (SOC). Replacing cropland with permanent pasture is one practice promoted for its potential to sequester soil carbon. However, pastures frequently support livestock, which produce other GHG emissions that could negate the abatement from increased SOC, especially given the declining rate of SOC sequestration through time. Our purpose was to determine whether the abatement provided by SOC storage in permanent pastures was offset by livestock emissions, and to thus compare emissions from grazed pasture systems with those from cropping systems. We investigated this question for three case study farms in locations with contrasting climate, soils and management representative of Australian cropping and livestock systems.



International Institute for Sustainable Development
How Costa Rica's environment minister talks to his daughter about climate change

20 January 2020

Do we need new, advanced technology to reduce carbon emissions? Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Costa Rica's Minister of Environment and Energy, says we already have the best "machine" for the job: Trees.



SpringerNature
Kinetic and isotherm modeling for acid blue 113 dye adsorption onto low-cost nutraceutical industrial fenugreek seed spent

18 January 2020

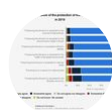
Abstract The present study reports about the use of fenugreek seed spent as a new and efficient biosorbent for the removal of acid blue 113 dye from aqueous media and textile industrial effluent. The spent is a low-cost by-product of nutraceutical industry. The effects of various process parameters of adsorption, such as pH, initial dye concentration, adsorbent dose, adsorbent particle size, contact time and temperature onto nutraceutical industrial fenugreek seed spent (NIFGS) have been studied. Four numbers of two-parameter and six numbers of three-parameter isotherm models were used in the analysis of adsorption equilibrium data. Kinetic studies data conformed to pseudo-second-order model. Molecular diffusion studies were carried out using Weber–Morris, Dumwald–Wagner and film diffusion models.



VoxEU
Special Issue of Economic Policy on the economics of climate change

17 January 2020

Climate change is at the top of our policy agendas. What can economics contribute to help deal with this important global challenge? With the aim to answer this question, the Managing Editors of Economic Policy are opening a call for papers for a special issue on "The Economics of Climate Change" to bring together the best ideas to inform the debate and provide high-impact policy advice.



World Economic Forum
3 challenges for the future of Brazil - and the world

15 January 2020

Zero tolerance of deforestation and a policy to fight inequality as Brazil's economic future will have "global consequences".

Rising demand and climate change are threatening global food systems

A growing global population and expanding middle class are increasing demand for food, and placing agricultural land, forests and water resources under greater amounts of strain. At the same time, farm systems are increasingly vulnerable to climate change and related weather volatility. As temperatures and sea levels rise at an accelerated pace, experts suggest that failing to limit global warming to 2°C above pre-industrial temperature levels would lead to irreversible damage. The global food value chain, including growers, producers and sellers, accounts for roughly 30% of global energy consumption, and generates greenhouse gases estimated at 10 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent every year, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' 2017 report *The State of Food and Agriculture*. Agriculture uses 11% of the world's land surface for crop production, accounts for 70% of total freshwater withdrawals, and is responsible for about 80% of global deforestation, according to the report. The combined effect of climate and carbon dioxide change is as likely as not to increase food prices by as much as 45% by 2050, according to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published in 2014.

Related insight areas: [Water](#), [Oceans](#), [Circular Economy](#), [Climate Change](#), [Forests](#)

There will also likely be a significant increase in related packaging; the production of plastics used in the packaging of food products is expected to nearly quadruple by 2050, according to the World Economic Forum's 2016 report *The New Plastics Economy*. Developing more sustainable systems could have significant social and economic impacts, particularly in developing economies poised to leapfrog traditional, "take-make-dispose" approaches already prevalent elsewhere. In general, the plastics and agribusiness sectors must work together with multiple stakeholders, in order to maximize resource sustainability. Greater efforts at increasing sustainability are also called for when it comes to food produced in the oceans. Nearly one third of global fish stocks are being overfished, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' 2016 report *State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture*, jeopardizing economic and environmental security. Improved fishery management could both help to address overfishing, and create significant economic opportunity; research published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA* in 2016 estimated that strong fisheries management techniques could increase the annual global catch by more than 16 million tonnes, while creating \$53 billion in additional profit.



Circle of Blue
U.S. Food Trade Increasingly Leans On Unsustainable Groundwater

23 January 2020

Biggest reliance on unsustainable groundwater is in the western states, study finds. By Brett Walton, Circle of Blue American agriculture is a behemoth, a world-leading industry that, while meeting extensive domestic demands, still exports around \$140 billion in farm products each year. Soybeans go to China. Cherries to Japan. Baskets of goods to Canada. Some [...] The post U.S. Food Trade Increasingly Leans On Unsustainable Groundwater appeared first on Circle of Blue .



London School of Economics and Political Science
Four principles for practising and evaluating co-production – a view from sustainability research.

22 January 2020

The co-production paradigm has become commonplace across many disciplines as a means of orchestrating the production of useful knowledge aligned to different social needs. Drawing on the expertise of 36 co-production practitioners in the field of sustainability research, Dr Albert Norström, Dr Chris Cvitanovic, Dr Marie F. Löff, Dr Simon West and Dr Carina Wyborn, present a new working definition of [...].



Frontiers
A Simple Method for Simulating Drought Effects on Plants

21 January 2020

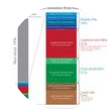
Drought is expected to increase in frequency and severity in many regions in the future, so it is important to improve our understanding of how drought affects plant functional traits and ecological interactions. Imposing experimental water deficits is key to gaining this understanding, but has been hindered by logistic difficulties in maintaining consistently low water availability for plants. Here, we describe a simple method for applying soil water deficits to potted plants in glasshouse experiments. We modified an existing method (the “Snow and Tingey system”) in order to apply a gradual, moderate water deficit to 50 plant species of different life forms (grasses, vines, shrubs, trees).



Science Daily
Local water availability is permanently reduced after planting forests

20 January 2020

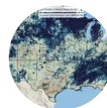
River flow is reduced in areas where forests have been planted and does not recover over time, a new study has shown. Rivers in some regions can completely disappear within a decade. This highlights the need to consider the impact on regional water availability, as well as the wider climate benefit, of tree-planting plans.



World Economic Forum
What’s for lunch? Sustainability on the Davos menu

17 January 2020

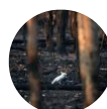
With huge environmental impacts resulting from certain food such as meat through carbon emissions, organisers at Davos are offering sustainable, plant-based meals to improve personal health and be more eco-friendly.



Circle of Blue
U.S. Water Data, Refreshed Daily

16 January 2020

New U.S. Geological Survey tool displays where water is – and isn’t – in the Lower 48 states. The post U.S. Water Data, Refreshed Daily appeared first on Circle of Blue .



World Economic Forum
The heat is on businesses to respond to climate change

15 January 2020

Climate change-related risks to business are huge. Here's how they should be preparing.

Health and Wellness

The private sector plays an important role in fighting malnutrition and obesity

The world is generally becoming more health-conscious. However, people continue to struggle with hunger, “hidden hunger” (a lack of vitamins and minerals one may not be aware of), and “overnutrition” (obesity). The problem of chronic hunger is growing worse; the estimated number of undernourished people in the world rose to 815 million as of 2016, from 777 million in the prior year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization’s 2017 report *The State of Food Insecurity and Nutrition in the World*. The recent increase actually followed a steady decline, according to the report, and reflected worsened situations in sub-Saharan Africa, South-Eastern Asia and Western Asia - particularly in conflict zones affected by drought or floods. Stunting, or impaired growth as a result of poor nutrition, affected 155 million children under the age of five, according to the report, and wasting, or the lack of appropriate weight, affected one out of every 12 children as of 2016.

Excessive weight is also a global problem. Childhood obesity is increasing in most regions of the world (41 million children under the age of five were overweight as of 2016), according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization’s report, and adult obesity is increasing everywhere. Non-communicable diseases, driven by risk factors including a poor diet, will lead to a cumulative loss of global economic output equal to \$7 trillion between 2011 and 2030, according to a report released by the Harvard School of Public Health and the World Economic Forum. The roles that agriculture and the food and beverage industry can play in addressing health and undernourishment are significant. Through increased coordination and collaboration, there are opportunities to reduce malnutrition and create a positive impact. A number of companies are finding that delivering healthier products makes good business sense. Nestle, for example, created a Health Science unit to develop nutritional products, while sales in general of sugar- and salt-heavy packaged foods have declined. In the US, large sellers of consumer packaged goods (including packaged foods) saw their collective market share decline between 2011 and 2015, while small and mid-sized firms, including healthy food producers like protein bar maker Quest Nutrition, saw their collective market share increase during the same period, according to a report published by the consultancy BCG.

Related insight areas: [Behavioural Sciences](#), [Fourth Industrial Revolution](#), [Healthcare Delivery](#), [Global Health](#), [Future of Food](#), [Ageing](#), [Sustainable Development](#)



World Resources Institute
China Can Lead Global Green Trade Drive

22 January 2020

As we approach the Year of the Rat and begin a new 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac, three profound challenges face the world: how to build a more stable and efficient trading system, tackle climate change and protect biodiversity. China has a pivotal role to play in all three.



London School of Economics and Political Science
The Agriculture Bill is radical, but it may not be enough to sustain smaller British farms

22 January 2020

A new focus on environmental stewardship and animal welfare in the Agriculture Bill has pleased some conservationists. But British farmers will probably now have to compete on price with agribusinesses in the US. Richard Byrne (Harper Adams University) asks whether the new subsidies will be enough to keep smaller UK farms afloat. The long-awaited Agriculture ... Continued.



Peterson Institute for International Economics
Trump's phase one deal with China relies on overblown estimates of what the US can sell

21 January 2020

The centerpiece of President Donald Trump's much anticipated "phase one" trade agreement with China, signed January 15, is a commitment by Beijing to import an additional \$200 billion worth of American goods and services over the next two years. Trump is certain to cite that pledge time and again...



Project Syndicate
A Data Revolution for All

20 January 2020

It has now been almost two decades since the original launch of DATA, a platform that marshaled \$100 billion in debt forgiveness for poor countries, and another \$50 billion in contributions for health and development. In a world with more data and data-science expertise than ever, it's time to revive that innovative spirit.



The New Humanitarian
Syrian abuses, locust swarms, and millennial musings: The Cheat Sheet

17 January 2020

A weekly read to keep you in the loop on humanitarian issues.



International Food Policy Research Institute
Gaining a better understanding of local fertilizer prices for African smallholder farmers

16 January 2020

A new study uses spatial interpolation models to estimate local fertilizer prices where data are unavailable.



Center for Global Development
Improving Medicines Quality in LMICs: Role of Market and Financing Institutions

15 January 2020

Poor quality medicines pose significant risks to global health. This blog responds to a recent report from the National Academies that out clear recommendations to global, national and agency level stakeholders which can help strengthen food and medical products regulatory systems in low- and middle-income countries.

Demographic Changes and Agriculture

As people get older and wealthier, expectations for food and beverage offerings will change

Demographic shifts are creating an older, wealthier, and increasingly urban-dwelling global population, and dramatically affecting the agriculture, food and beverage sector. About 140 million people are joining the middle class every year, according to a 2017 report published by the Brookings Institution, and that number should grow to 170 million in about five years - creating more consumers with more disposable income to spend in supermarkets and at restaurants. In addition, by 2050, a dramatically greater number of these consumers will be elderly and living in cities, portending significant changes in related consumption patterns; according to figures published by the United Nations, more than 2 billion people in the world will be older than 60 by 2050, and about 66% of the global population will probably be living in urban areas - compared with 54% as of 2014.

Expectations for how products are delivered will evolve, as these demographic shifts bring about changes in how individuals consume, and what they consume. The food and beverage sector is expected to be highly impacted by trends including an increased demand for personalization, and for automatic replenishment via technologies like the Internet of Things, according to the World Economic Forum's 2017 report *Shaping the Future of Retail for Consumer Industries*. According to the results of a survey published alongside the Forum's report, more than one third of respondents wanted services that automatically send them food and beverage products when they are running low.

Related insight areas: [Youth Perspectives](#), [Future of Food](#), [Advanced Manufacturing and Production](#), [Future of Consumption](#), [Sustainable Development](#), [Internet of Things](#), [Cities and Urbanization](#), [Ageing](#)



World Resources Institute
6 Lessons on Energy Decarbonization from Countries Leading the Way

22 January 2020

While very few countries are on track for achieving a zero-carbon energy system by 2050, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ethiopia and the United Kingdom are further along than many.



World Resources Institute
It Could Only Cost 1% of GDP to Solve Global Water Crises

21 January 2020

New WRI research shows how countries can achieve water security for all by 2030. The economic benefits of investing in sustainable water management far outweigh the costs.



Peterson Institute for International Economics
Unappreciated hazards of the US-China phase one deal

21 January 2020

The centerpiece of President Donald Trump's much anticipated "phase one" trade agreement with China, signed January 15, is a commitment by Beijing to import an additional \$200 billion worth of American goods and services over the next two years. Trump is certain to cite that pledge time and again...



The Next Web
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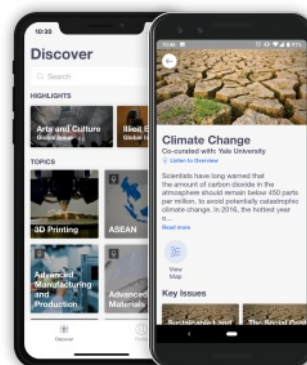
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