Welcome to the World Potato Congress Webinar

Mark your calendar for the next World Potato Congress!



June 23-26, 2024

Adelaide, Australia



Thank you for attending the webinar Please submit questions in the Q/A tab

The recorded version of this webinar will be available at the World Potato Congress website (potatocongress.org)



The Declaration of Dublin and the WPC strategy,

Fostering Potato Partnerships for Food Security

Peter Vander Zaag and André Devaux World Potato Congress (WPC) Board Members





WPC Webinar, November 28, 2023

Outline:

- 1. The World Potato Congress Inc.
- 2. Declaration of Dublin: the rationale
- 3. China set the example
- 4. Examples of the scope of the Declaration of Dublin
- 5. Concluding observations





1. World Potato Congress Inc.

- ✓ Launched in 1993 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada
 - √11 congresses all over the world, gathering nearly 10,000 potato professionals
 - ✓ Network events and webinars focusing on Northern & Southern countries

✓ All info & updates on www.potatocongress.org















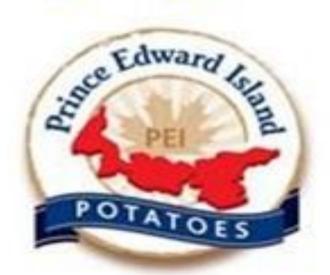


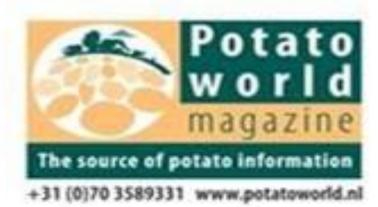




Bringing Earth's Resources to Life















GOLD Level Sustaining Partners Say





potato,

say







SILVER Level Sustaining Partners

















CANADA











FARMS









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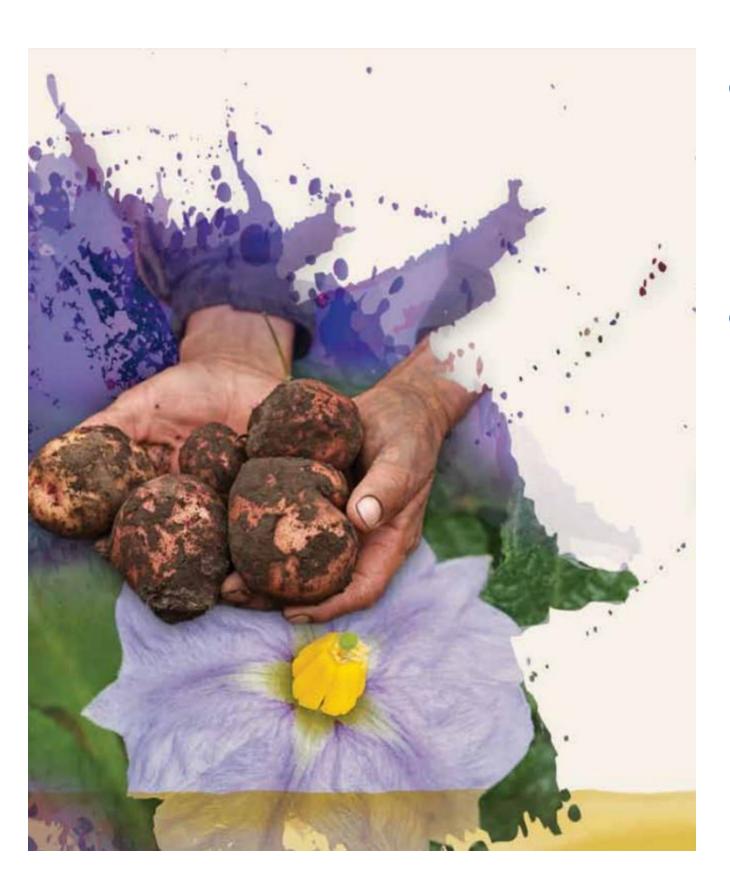
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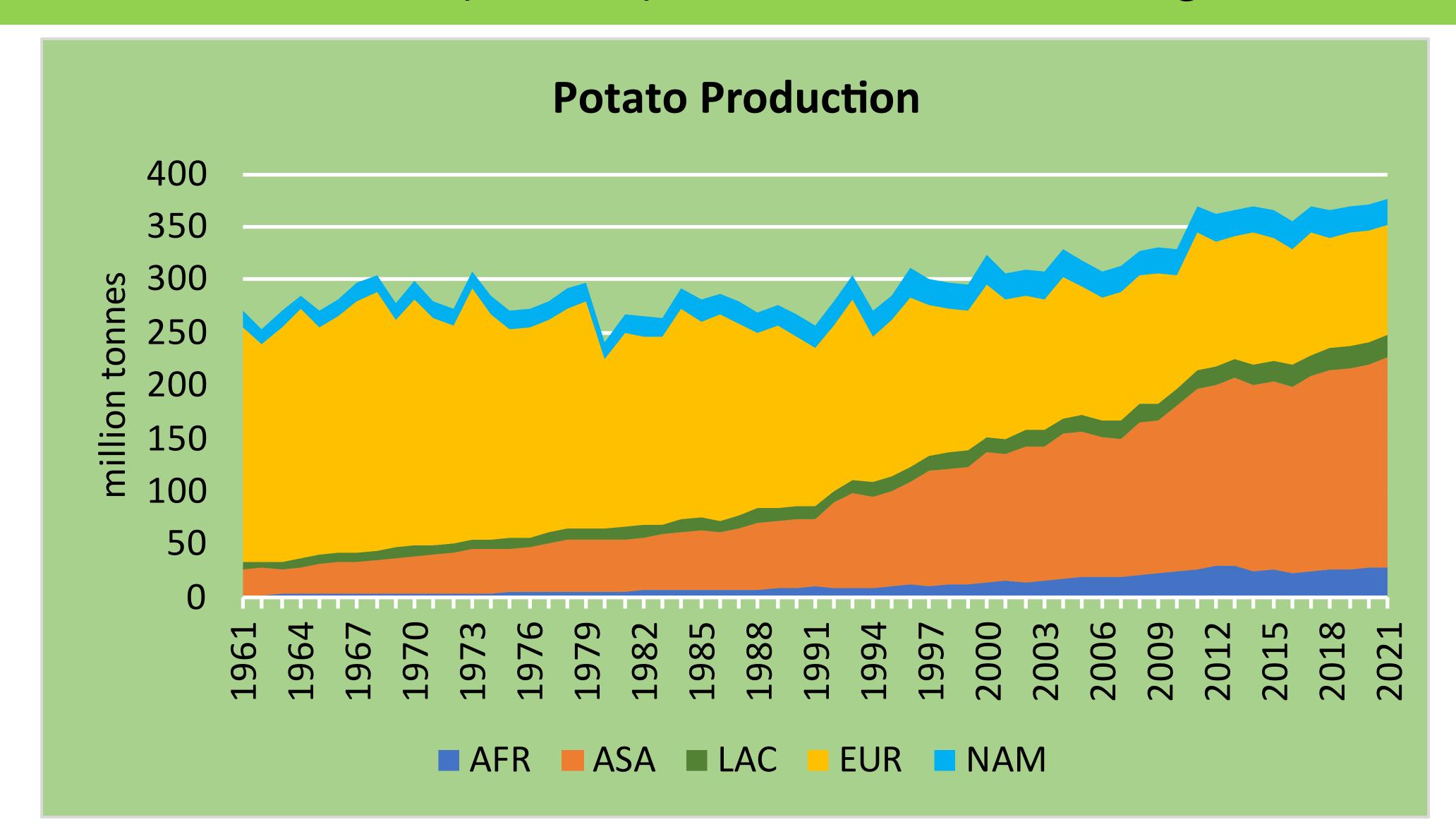
2. The Declaration of Dublin, the rationale

The 'power' of potato-based food systems

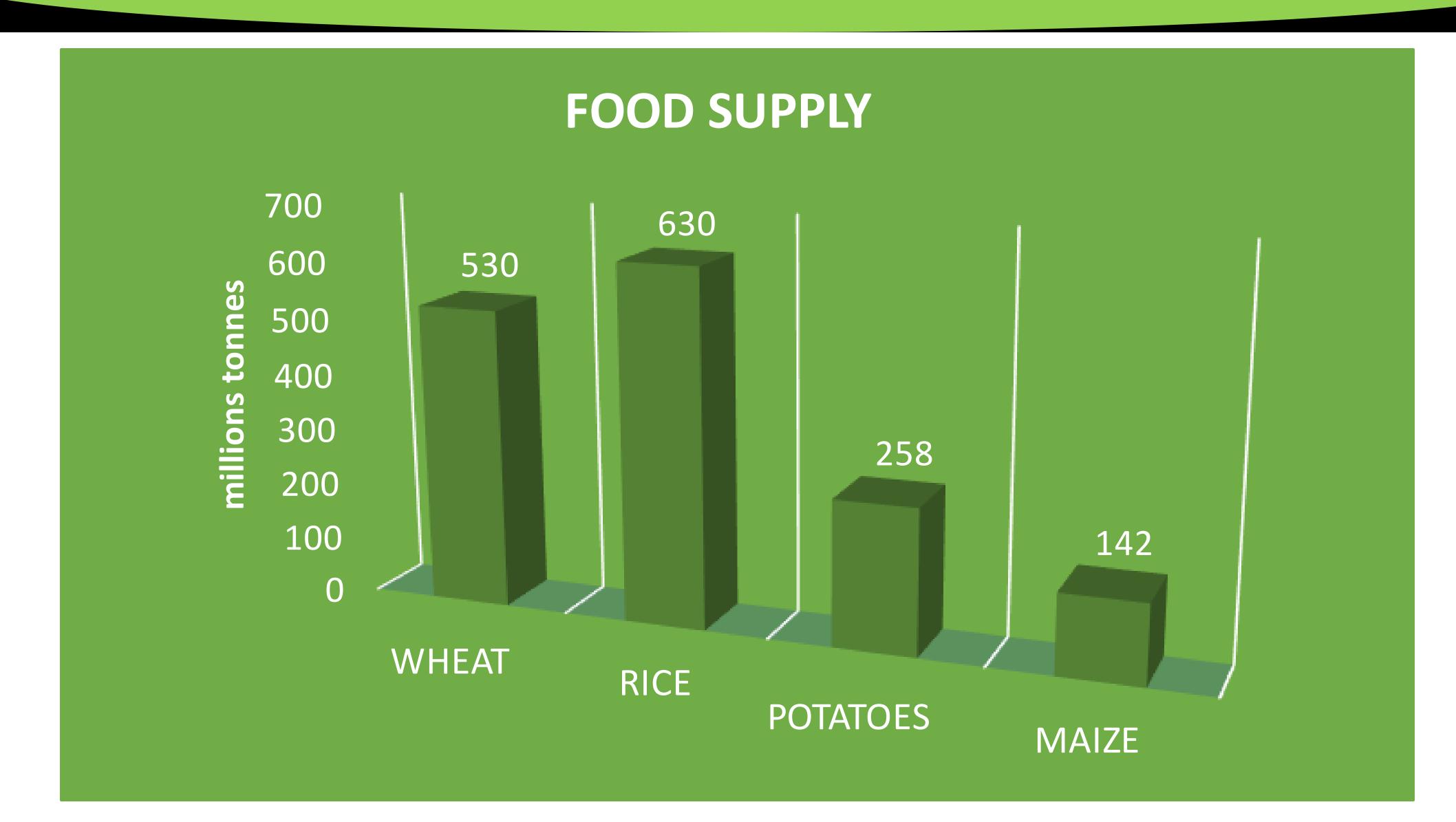


- To ensure sustainable livelihoods for farmers through potato science and technology
- To feed an expanded population and provide nutritious products to consumers while minimizing an environmental footprint
 - Potatoes can help provide many solutions needed to answer today's global challenges

Increase of potato production across regions



World food consumption per year for the four main nutritious crops



How the potato is part of the solution to global challenges

Resilience

Its high yield capacity, nutritional value, and adaptability to different agri foodsystems make it a resilient crop



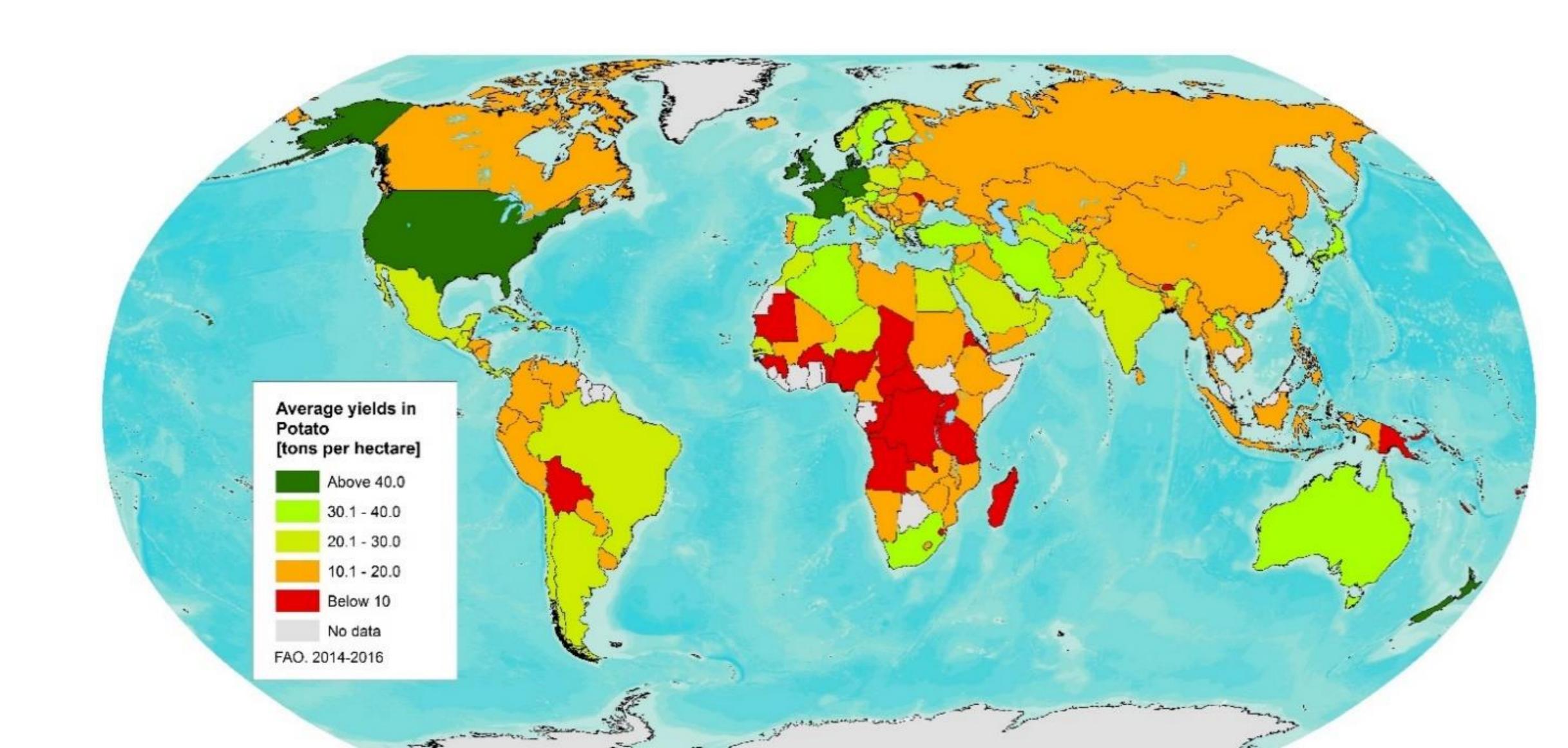
Subsistence & Income

The potato continues to play a dual role in the family farming economy as a cash crop and/or providing food for home consumption

Energy & Nutrition

Highly nutritious and energy packed, potatoes are an **excellent source of** vitamin C, potassium, and dietary fiber. They also contain micronutrients such as Fe and Zn

Global Distribution of Potato Yields (t/ha),



The Declaration of Dublin (D of D) and WPC strategy

The Declaration of Dublin is a guiding document and an important component of the WPC strategy.

It should contribute to strengthen the WPC's key role to **foster relationships** between private and public potato partners promoting interaction, knowledge sharing, and collaboration.

As part of the preparation of the D of D, the Irish government funded 40 scholarships to facilitate, in 2022, the participation to the WPC in Dublin of delegates from Asia, Africa and South America involved in potato innovation and development activities addressing food security challenges.



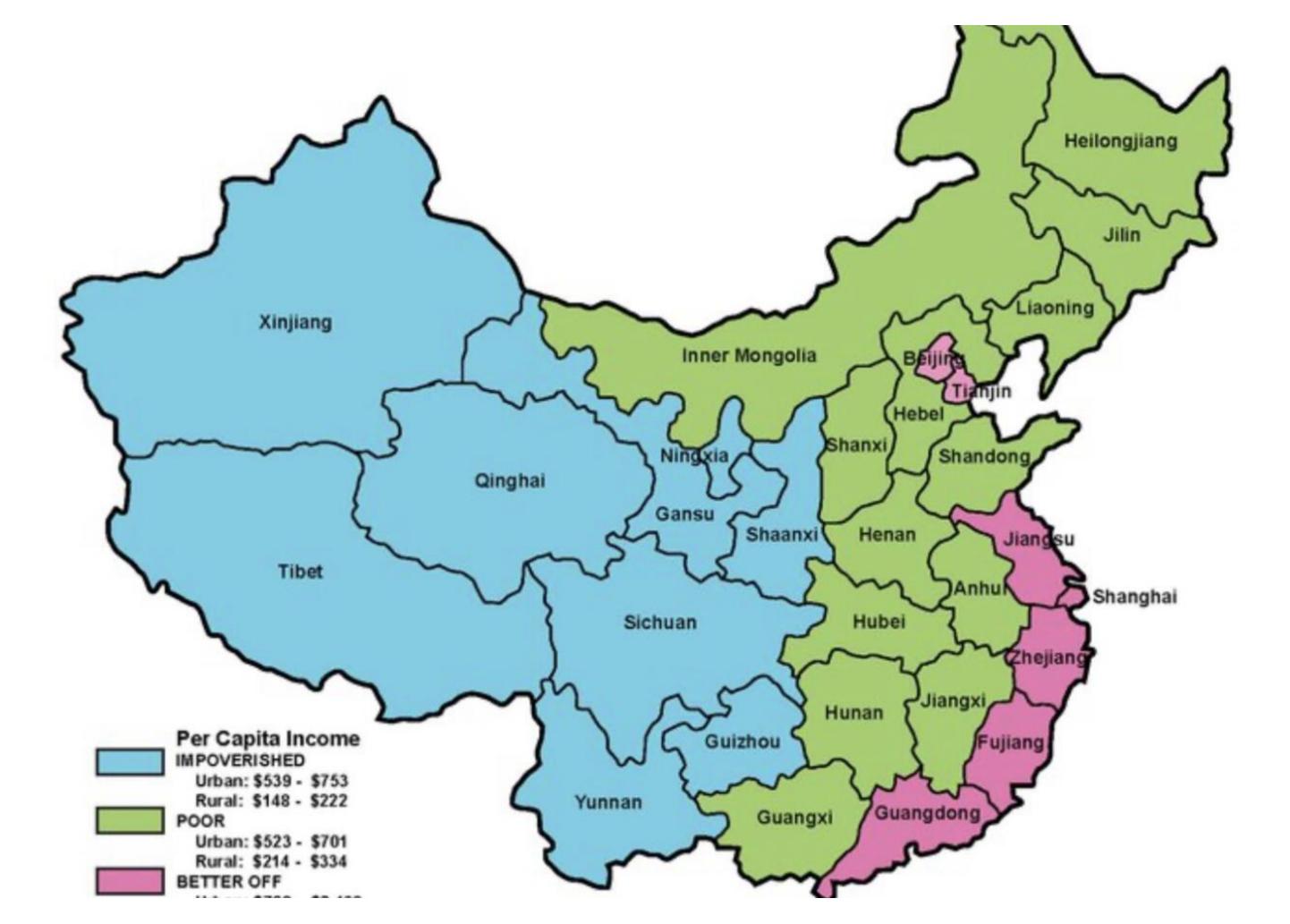
Sponsored delegates to 2022 - Some of these partners are now supporting the Declaration of Dublin

3. China set the example

How to implement a national strategy for poverty alleviation through partnerships and potato science and technology with government support



- 2010 map of China
- Western mountain region is in poverty
- Potatoes grow well in the highlands



Ningxia province hosts the largest potato Congress to address poverty alleviation in western pockets of China

- Qu Dongyu, as Vice Governor hosts the congress
- Seed potato production through subsidies and incentives were already implemented in earlier years
- How to reach the poorer regions with improved production practices



Partnerships were required by all institutions or rich municipalities with those in areas of acute need

- Scientific institutions needed to send staff to work in rural poor communities
- Wealthier cities were to help with health care and other community needs
- Infrastructure funds were provided by the national government to improve access to rural areas
- Result: greatly improved productivity and more potatoes to the market









Potatoes: The 4th Staple Food of China

- The WPCongress was held in Yanqing in 2015
- The potato, as a staple food strategy, was launched at that Congress
- Required all institutions and municipalities to adopt potatoes into the diets of its people throughout the country
- Potato cookbook was launched



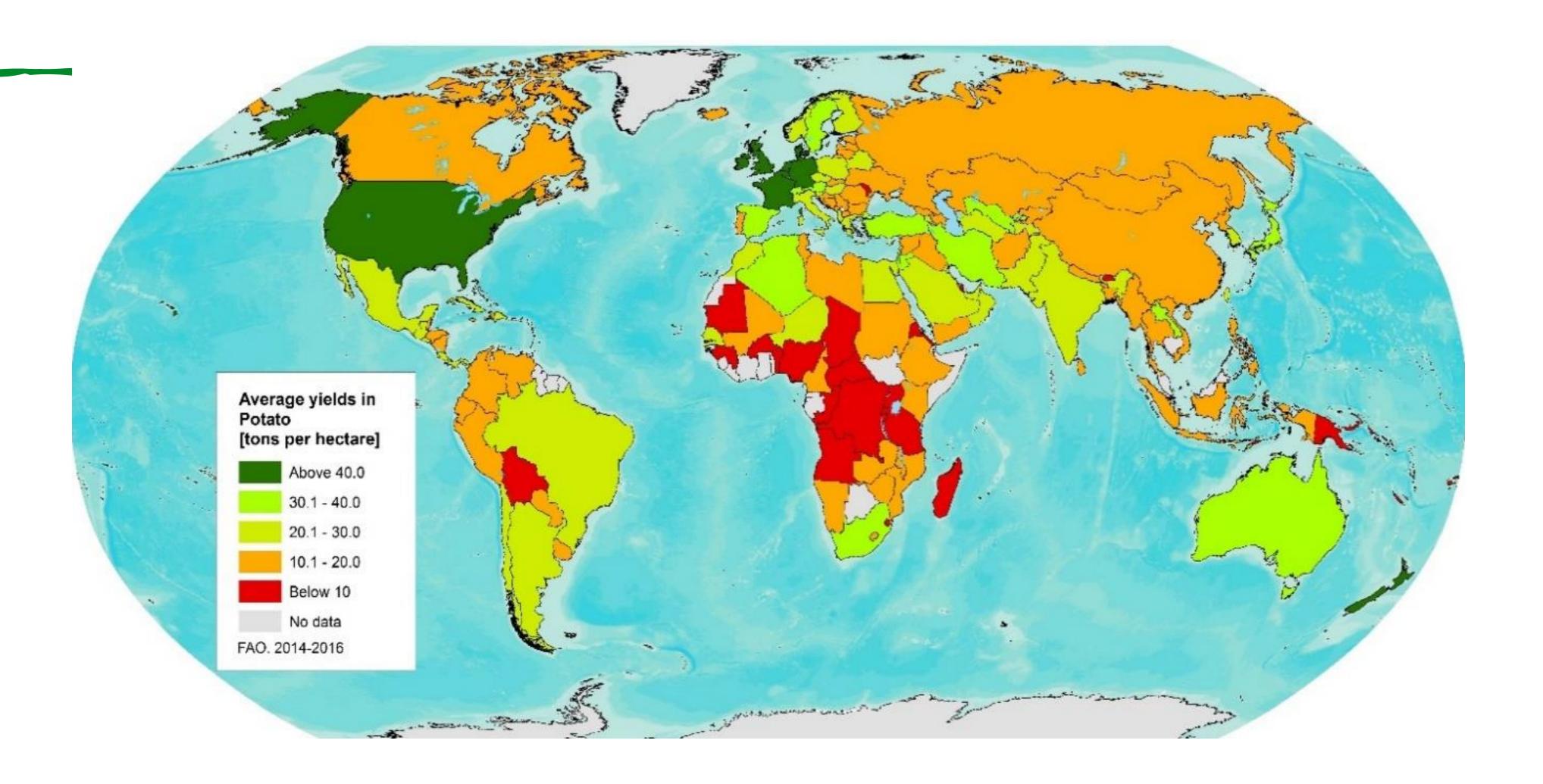






4. Examples of the Declaration of Dublin-Implemented after the WPC 2022 in Ireland

- Nepal
- Uganda
- Kenya
- Yemen



Impact of Quality Seed Potato Production in the Eastern Hills of Nepal

- National Potato Research Program (NPRP)
- Swiss Development Corporation (SDC)
- International Potato Center (CIP)
- Ilam Agriculture Research Station (ARS)



Impact of Quality Seed Potato Production in the Eastern Hills of Nepal

- New potato varieties from CIP
- Selecting cv Janak Dev with high yield and Late Blight resistance
- Pathogen free Tissue culture plants received by ARS
- Production for seed to send to lowland areas and table potatoes for food.
- Planned to improve and increase seed production (ARCs included)





Joint Efforts Address Smallholder Potato Production in NW Uganda

- Zombo District Farmers Association lead by Anna Odubi
- Trias is a Belgian farmer supported NGO
- Nyaravur Savings and Credit Corp
- Agristo
- Vocational Training Institute
- National Agriculture Research Organization (NARO)



Joint Efforts Address Smallholder Potato Production in NW Uganda

- Improved potato production practices and business management training
- Solar powered irrigation kits to 40 farmers
- Improved potato storages
- Soil improvements
- Seed potato production





Joint Efforts Address Smallholder Potato Production in NW Uganda

- Impact of Trias and all the supporting organizations brought holistic improvements to a large community benefiting all generations and especially women and youth
- Impact of Anna going to Dublin and Belgium creating new linkages

- FreshCrop Ltd. is a potato seed production company in the highlands owned by Chris and Ashley Casperi
- Financial partners include Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT/SNV)
- Local banks



- Chris and Ashley attended the WPC 2022 in Dublin and connected with several potato equipment suppliers
- Financing was obtained with a good business case for each piece.
- Learning how to utilize each piece of equipment







- Sharing Knowledge
- Train the Trainer model
- Hosting international visitors from a host of African countries
- Large potato field days





 Chris Gasperi: "It is crucial to work within the social context and not eliminate casual labor jobs that have been a pillar for employment. This is another reason we use a stepwise approach to introducing mechanization and keep good relations with the community. Mechanization allows us to expand production without our eliminating our labour force –instead we re-purpose roles as we continue to expand."



Challenges and opportunities for seed potato availability and quality in Yemen

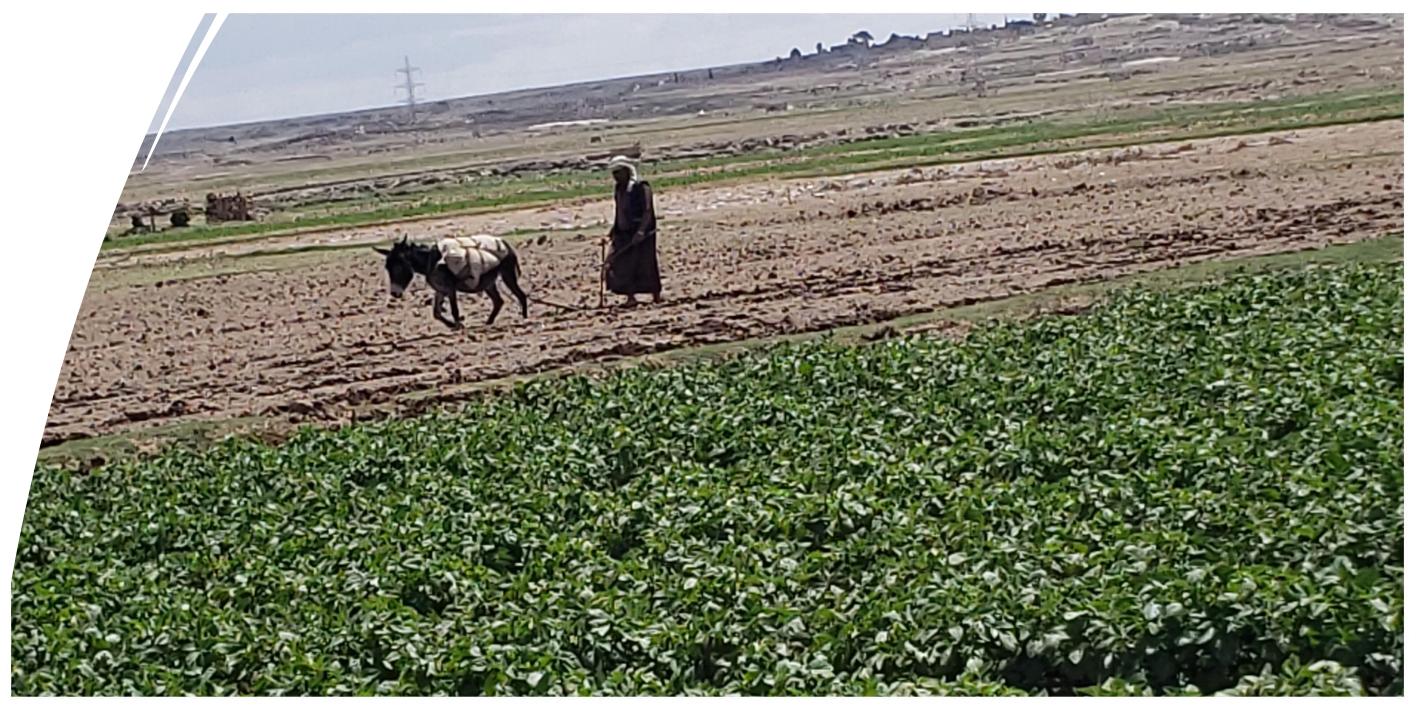
Partners:

- Professor Mohammed Ali Muthanna Saleh, Dhamar University
- Abdul-Allah Md Dhaif-Allah, Dhamar First Center for Seed Potatoes
- Dr Monica Parker, CIP
- Peter VanderZaag, Sunrise Potato Systems Institute



Challenges and opportunities for seed potato availability and quality in Yemen

- Yemen is a very poor war-torn country
- It is a country with a large population that is malnourished and hungry
- Yemen has sometimes imported seed potatoes from Europe. Not allowed anymore.
- How to address food security



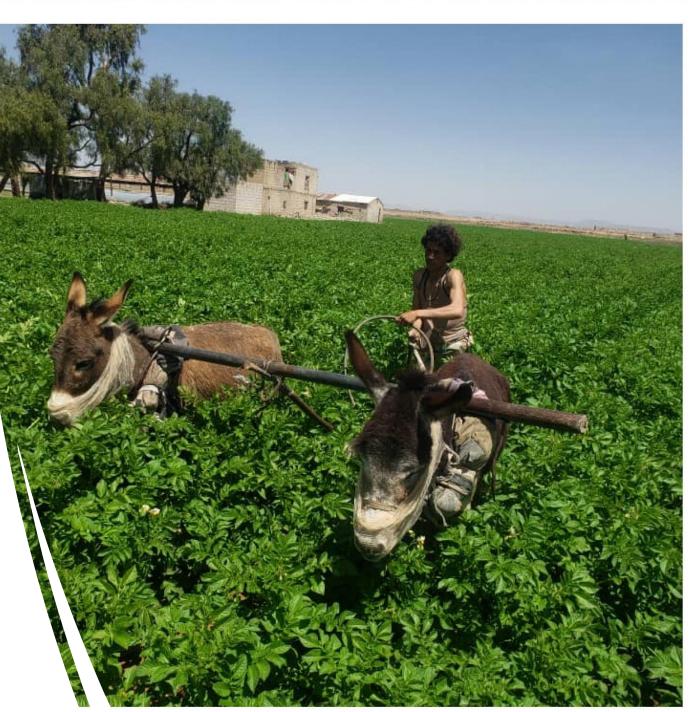




Challenges and opportunities for seed potato quality and availability in Yemen

- Multiply imported seed for several generations with removal of virus and other off type plants
- Do excellent crop management
- Do excellent storage of the seed potatoes for selling to farmers in the coming seasons.
- Creates a local seed production system with varieties that don't degenerate quickly.









Challenges and opportunities for seed potato availability and quality in Yemen

- Introduction of 12 CIP supplied varieties for evaluation since May 2023
- Apical Rooted Cuttings (ARC) are used to grow these in the field.
- Plan is to launch this on a large scale with the best varieties selected for adaptation, disease resistance and ease of multiplying as ARCs





Fostering Partnerships for Food Security involved Diverse partners, Companies, NGOs, Public organizations

or Individuals

- Swiss Development Corporation
- Trias, a farmer funded NGO
- Entrepreneurs with a big heart
- · CIP
- Sunrise Potato Systems Institute
- Local government organizations







Concluding observations

• The Declaration of Dublin is not a financial commitment to any specific project

- •It is a global commitment to share knowledge and provide networking opportunities for implementing and supporting projects through:
- Congress events
- Webinars
- Contacts with key potential partners or donors
- Those partnership projects and their achievements can be made visible globally and promoted through the WPC

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