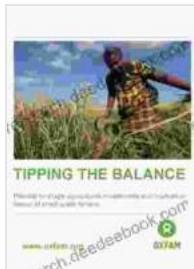


# Policies To Shape Agriculture Investments And Markets In Favour Of Small Scale



## Tipping the Balance: Policies to shape agriculture investments and markets in favour of small-scale farmers by Sanjaya Baru

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Small-scale agriculture is the backbone of food security in many developing countries. It provides a livelihood for over half of the world's population and produces the majority of the food consumed in these countries. However, small-scale farmers often face a number of challenges, including lack of access to credit, land, and technology. These challenges make it difficult for small-scale farmers to compete with larger-scale farmers and to participate in the global food market.

There is a growing recognition of the importance of small-scale agriculture for food security and poverty reduction. A number of policies and programmes have been implemented to support small-scale farmers, including providing access to credit, land, and technology. However, more

needs to be done to create an enabling environment for small-scale farmers to thrive.

One of the most important things that can be done to support small-scale farmers is to invest in agriculture research and development. This research can help to develop new technologies and practices that can improve the productivity and profitability of small-scale farming. It can also help to identify and address the challenges that small-scale farmers face.

Another important area for investment is infrastructure. Small-scale farmers need access to good roads, irrigation, and storage facilities in order to get their products to market. They also need access to information and training on new technologies and practices.

In addition to investing in agriculture research and development and infrastructure, it is also important to create policies that support small-scale farmers. These policies should include measures to:

- Provide access to credit and land
- Reduce the cost of inputs
- Improve access to markets
- Strengthen farmer organizations
- Promote sustainable agriculture practices

By implementing these policies, governments can create an enabling environment for small-scale farmers to thrive. This will help to improve food security, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable agriculture.

## **Case Study: The Impact of Agricultural Policies on Small-Scale Farmers in Kenya**

Kenya is a country with a large and diverse agricultural sector. Small-scale farmers play a major role in the Kenyan economy, producing the majority of the country's food. However, small-scale farmers in Kenya face a number of challenges, including lack of access to credit, land, and technology.

The Kenyan government has implemented a number of policies to support small-scale farmers. These policies include:

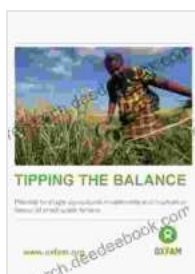
- Providing access to credit through the Agricultural Finance Corporation
- Distributing land to small-scale farmers through the land reform programme
- Investing in agricultural research and development
- Promoting sustainable agriculture practices

These policies have had a positive impact on the lives of small-scale farmers in Kenya. For example, the land reform programme has helped to increase the number of small-scale farmers who own land, and the Agricultural Finance Corporation has helped to increase access to credit. These changes have led to increased agricultural productivity and improved food security in Kenya.

However, there is still more that can be done to support small-scale farmers in Kenya. The government needs to continue to invest in agriculture research and development, and it needs to implement policies that reduce the cost of inputs and improve access to markets. By doing so, the

government can create an enabling environment for small-scale farmers to thrive and contribute to the country's economic development.

Small-scale agriculture is essential for food security and poverty reduction in developing countries. However, small-scale farmers often face a number of challenges, including lack of access to credit, land, and technology. Governments can support small-scale farmers by investing in agriculture research and development, infrastructure, and policies that create an enabling environment for them to thrive. By ng so, governments can help to improve food security, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable agriculture.



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