

# Impact of Covid-19 on Agriculture in the Asia- Pacific Region and Role of Mechanization

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# OUTLINE

**1** Impact of the pandemic on agriculture

**2** Role of sustainable agricultural mechanization

**3** Recommendations and work of CSAM



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# Covid-19 pandemic

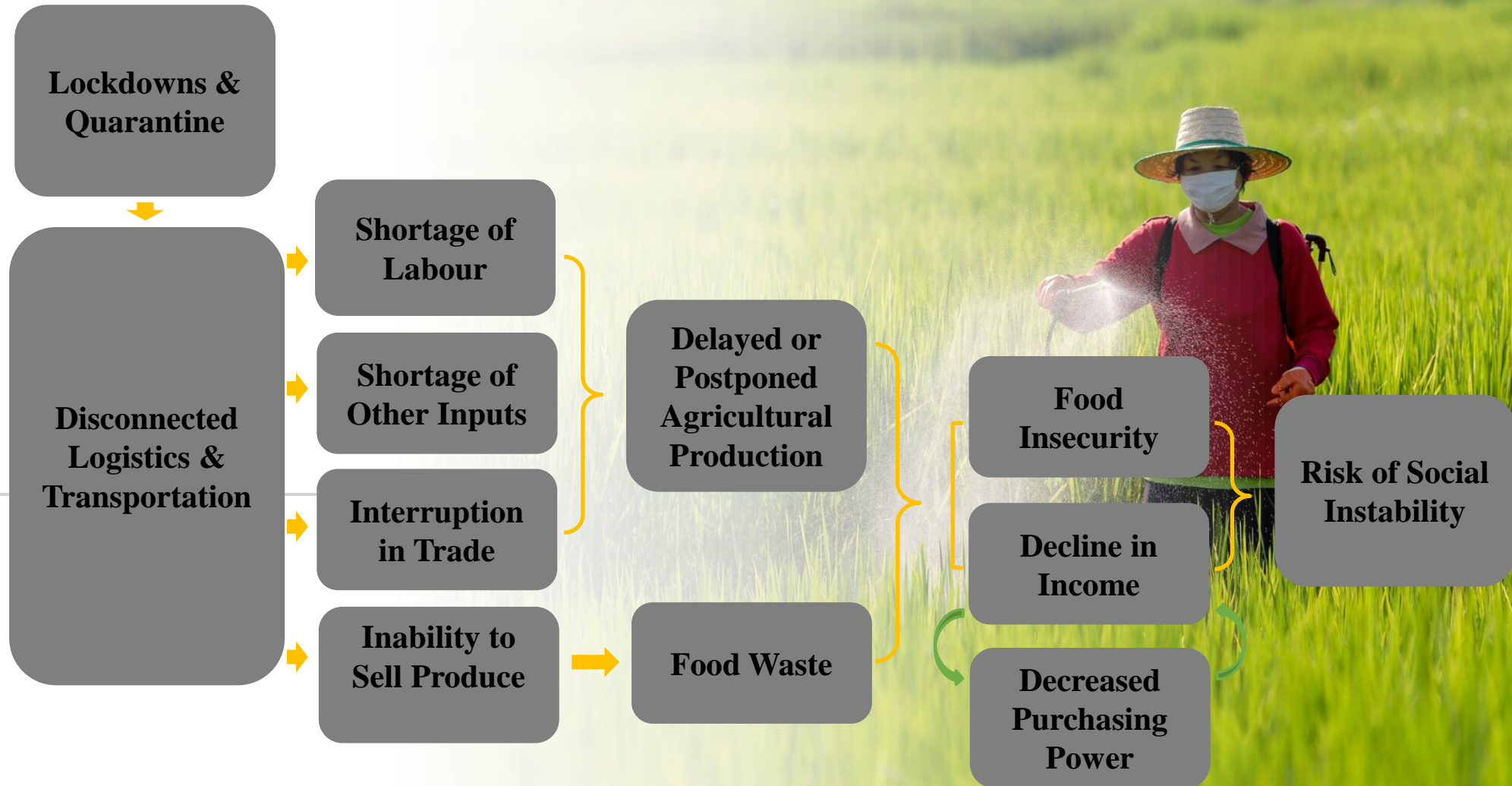
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- Brought unprecedented challenges in the agricultural sector in the Asia-Pacific region
- Threatens to stagnate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, reverse gains made in recent years
- Between 83 and 132 million people may be added to the ranks of the undernourished globally in 2020 due to the pandemic





# Impact of the pandemic on agriculture



## Role of sustainable agricultural mechanization in supporting recovery and building resilience

- Introduce greater speed of operations in food production process
- Increase yield and output
- Reduce production costs
- Increase cropping intensity
- Reduce post-harvest losses
- Save manpower and reduce drudgery of agricultural work



Photo courtesy: Zheng Guohua



## Recommended priorities for region to 'Build Back Better' through Sustainable Mechanization

- Address needs of smallholder farmers
- Strengthen rural infrastructure
- Promote ICT-enabled mechanization technologies
- Promote research and development
- Encourage role of youth
- Deepen private sector engagement



# CSAM Programmes



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**Strategy Advisory**

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**Knowledge Sharing and Networking**

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**Capacity Building**

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**Testing Standards Harmonization**

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**Climate-resilient Practices**

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**Youth Engagement**

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**South-South cooperation**





# Snapshots of work of ESCAP-CSAM





Thank you!