



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture

George Rapsomanikis
FAO Economic and Social Development





More productive, sustainable and efficient agriculture

Better yields and sustainable outcomes

Cost reduction – efficiency

Big Data and AI analytics to support decisions

e-commerce and blockchain, inclusive and efficient
value chains

Challenges and risks

Digital divide in agriculture

Data ownership and privacy issues

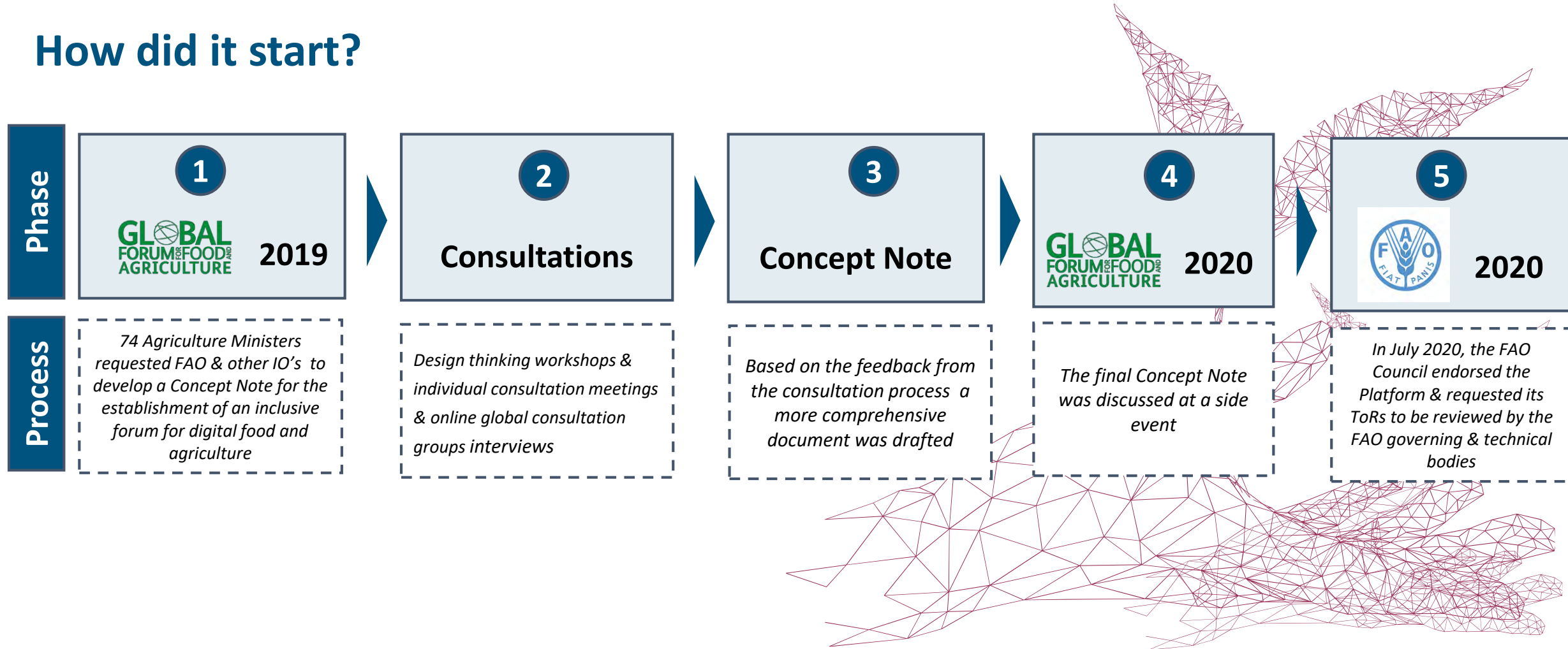
AI: human rights, environmental concerns, food
security and animal welfare

Long-term impacts

The International Platform for Digital Food and Agriculture will provide a forum to discuss the potential benefits and risks of digitalization of agriculture and provide policy advice and guidance



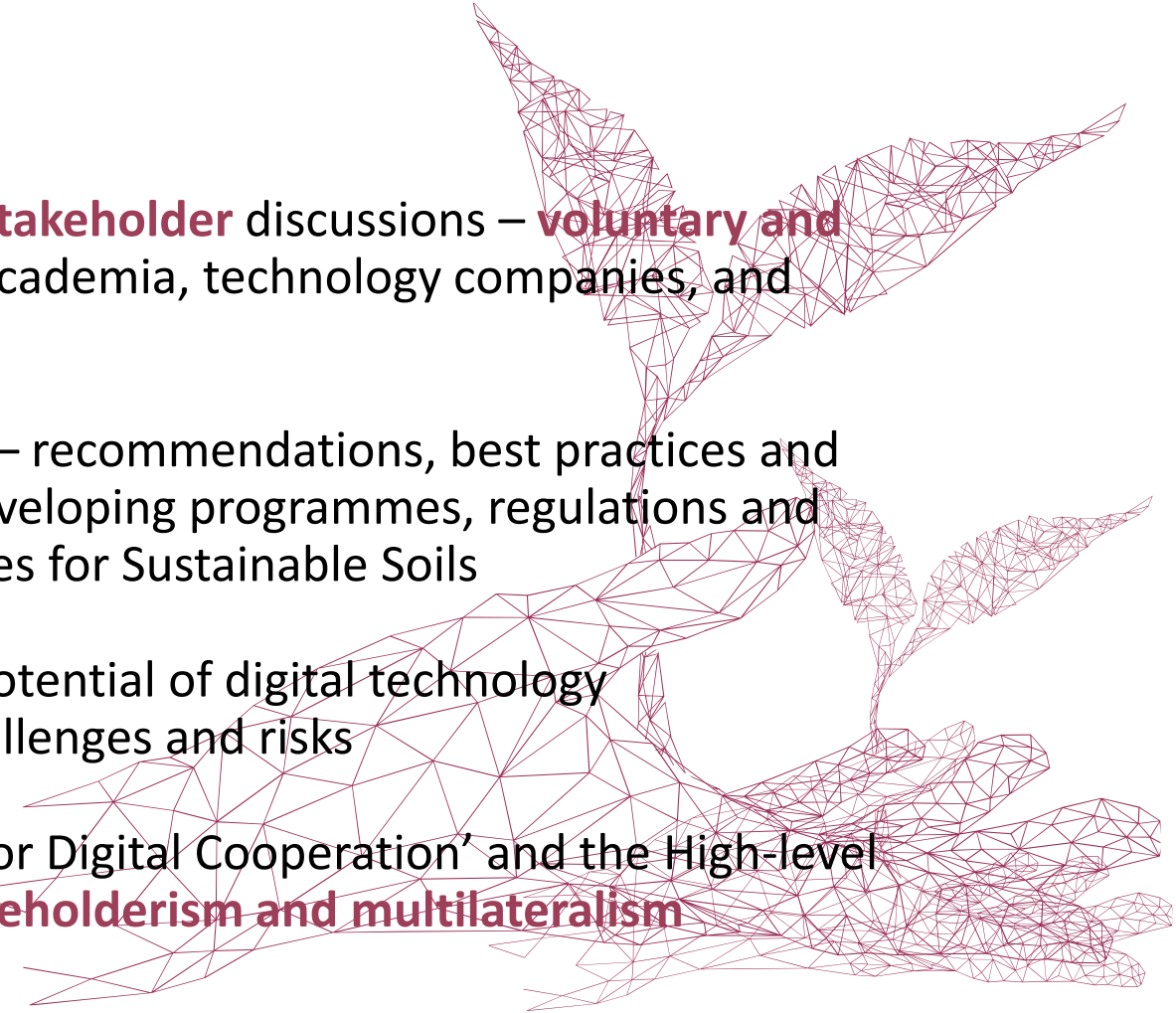
How did it start?





What is it about?

- **Cooperation & knowledge-sharing** through **multi-stakeholder** discussions – **voluntary and inclusive** (countries, farmers, agribusiness, NGOs, academia, technology companies, and international organizations)
- **Advice & guidance through advocacy instruments** – recommendations, best practices and voluntary guidelines to support policy-makers in developing programmes, regulations and policy approaches, e.g. CFS-RAI, Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soils
- **Support an enabling environment** – focus on the potential of digital technology applications on food and agriculture – impacts, challenges and risks
- In line with the UN Secretary's-General 'Roadmap for Digital Cooperation' and the High-level Panel of Experts on Digital Cooperation - **multi-stakeholderism and multilateralism**





Global cooperation architecture for digital technologies



International Telecommunications Union - UN agency mandated for the digital economy and the standard-setting body for digital technologies



World Telecommunications Development Conference - digital development, skills, connectivity, infrastructure



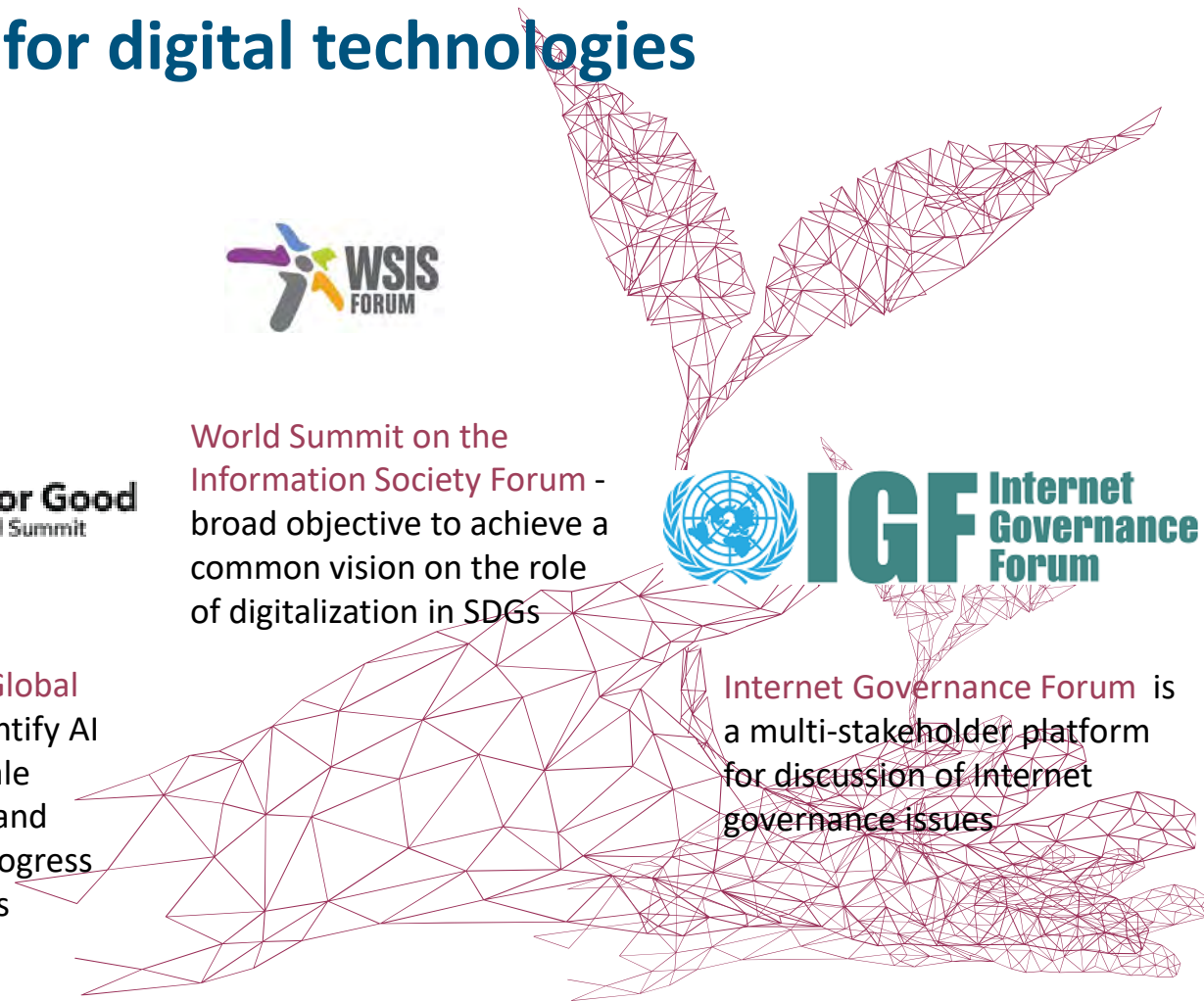
AI for Good Global Summit - identify AI solutions, scale applications and accelerate progress towards SDGs



World Summit on the Information Society Forum - broad objective to achieve a common vision on the role of digitalization in SDGs



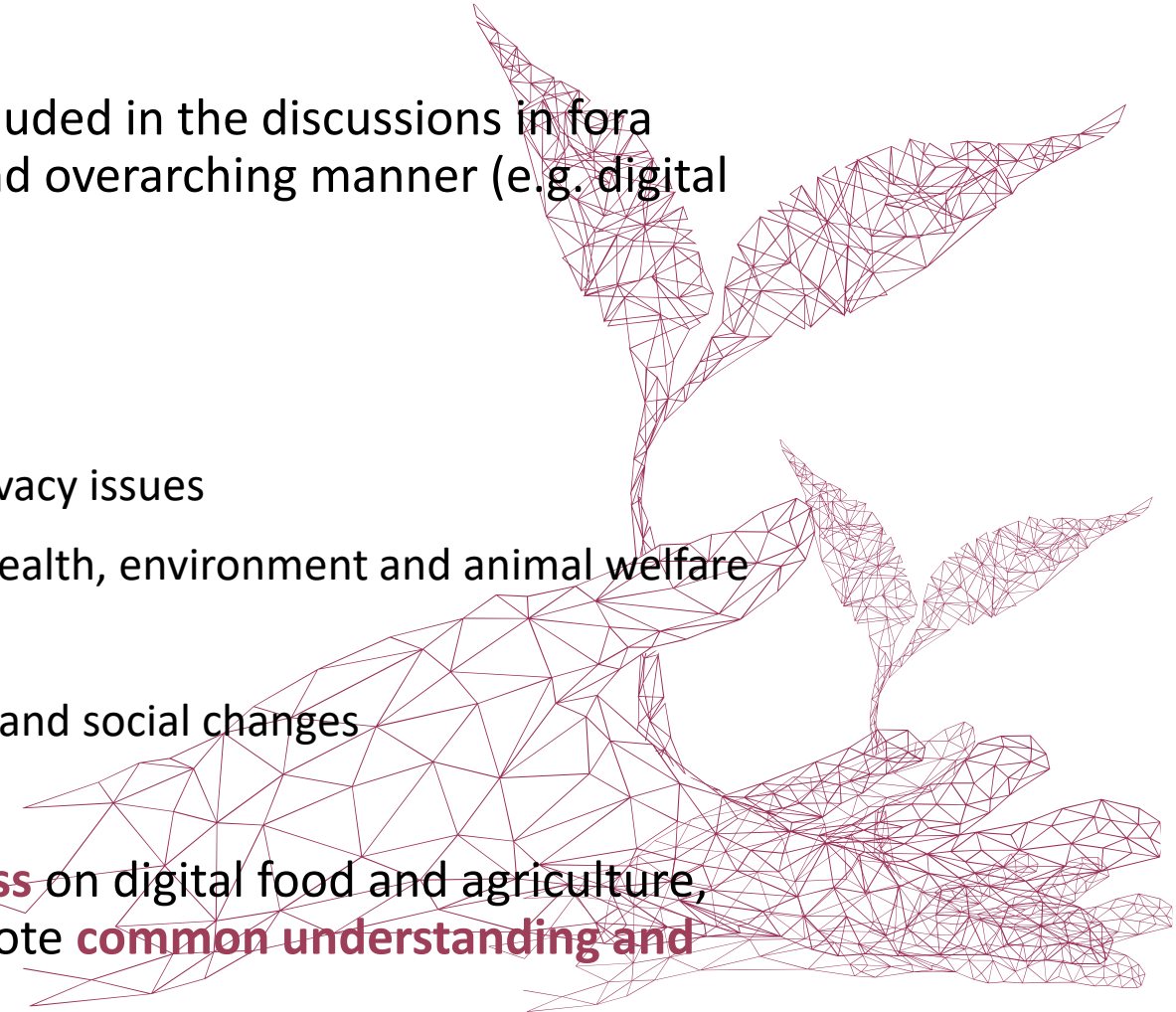
Internet Governance Forum is a multi-stakeholder platform for discussion of Internet governance issues





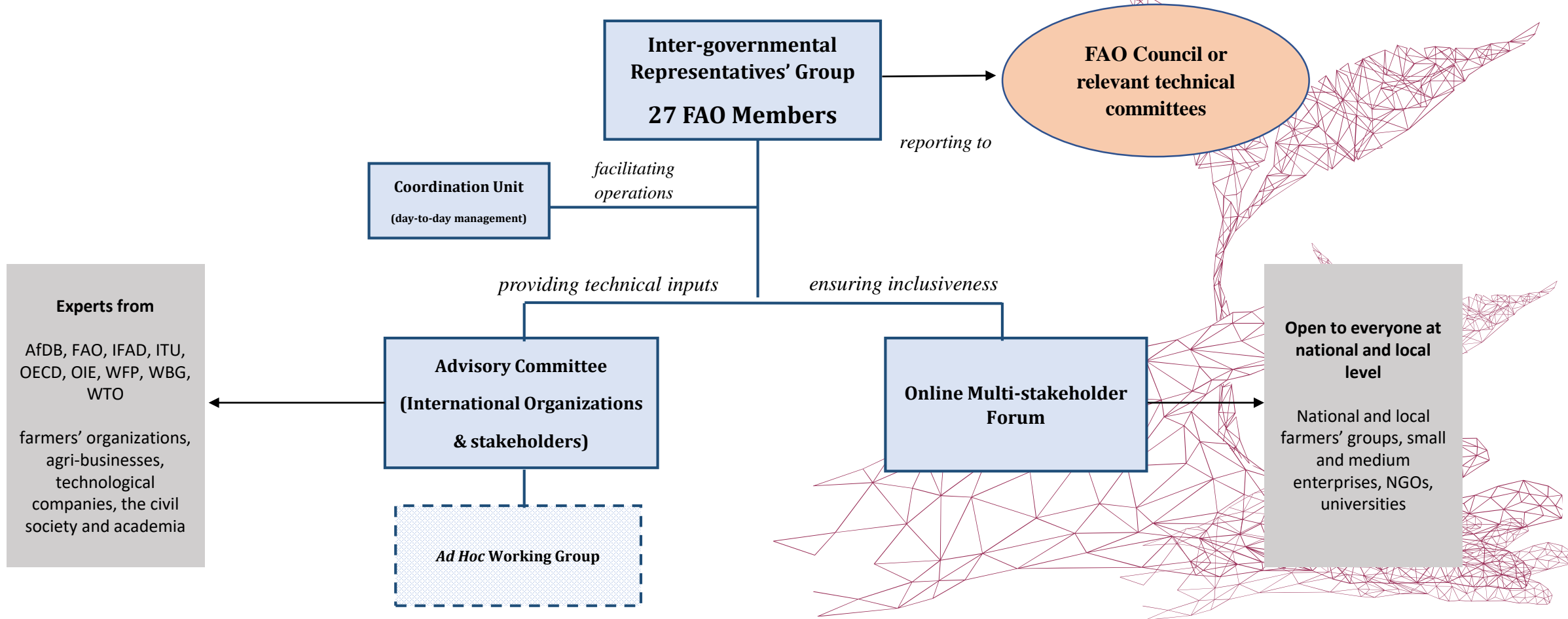
Why the Platform?

- **There is a gap:** food and agriculture not always included in the discussions in fora mandated for digital economy – often in a broad and overarching manner (e.g. digital divide)
- Impacts on **food and agriculture** can be **specific:**
 - Farm/consumer data – ownership, analysis and privacy issues
 - Artificial intelligence – human rights, food safety, health, environment and animal welfare
 - Digital public goods – accelerate progress to SDGs
 - Automation – employment, wages, rural economy and social changes
- Platform will **bridge the gap** and **increase awareness** on digital food and agriculture, **facilitate discussion** among stakeholders and promote **common understanding and solutions**





Structure and operating mechanism





Conclusions and next steps

Voluntary and **inclusive multi-stakeholder forum** to:

- strengthen **cooperation** and **knowledge-sharing**
- facilitate **consensus** and provide **guidance**

Next steps

- finalize the review of Platform's **Terms of Reference** by the FAO technical committees and submit to FAO Council for discussion and endorsement
- **map challenges** for digital food and agriculture through online consultations to prepare proposals for agenda/priorities
- engage donors in developing a **sustainable funding plan** for the initiative





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Thank you

