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Kostas Stamoulis is currently Assistant Director General of the Economic and Social Development Department at the FAO. In 2015, he led the design and provided strategic guidance to the FAO's Strategic Programme on Food Security and Nutrition, which cuts across several disciplines and geographical regions. From 2008 to 2015, he was Director of the Agricultural Development Economics Division of the FAO and from 2007 to 2015, he was the Secretary of the Committee on the World Food Security. Before joining the FAO in 1989, he was Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Illinois. Mr Stamoulis' expertise focuses on the role of agriculture in rural development and rural poverty reduction in developing countries; the impact of changes in food systems on smallholder farmers and on rural poverty; the linkages between the agricultural sector and the rural non-farm economy and the integration of food security and nutrition in sectorial policies and programs. He holds a PhD in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California.