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HOW TO DEVELOP MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES

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Measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change in agricultural systems will have to be undertaken while doubling food production by 2050 (FAO, 2008), maintaining ecosystems services, producing biofuel and new materials, as well as saving land for nature. Systems analysis is the only method by which the combinations of climate projections, new gene and other new technologies can be integrated. Management solutions and options for strategic and representative agro-ecosystems are needed for mitigation and adaptation strategies and tactics; the need to develop and implement specific solutions at the systems level has been recommended by the SCAR Working Group on climate change and agriculture. The role of field work and modelling is highlighted with comments on issues of scale and extrapolations.