**Template for non-Party stakeholders’ inputs**

**for the Talanoa Dialogue**

Question 2 - Where do we want to go?

*This template is meant to guide non-Party stakeholders (organization(s), coalition(s), initiative(s) and/or sector(s) etc.) in providing inputs that are relevant and impactful to the Talanoa Dialogue process. Using such the template is not mandatory, however, the High-level Champions encourage non-Party stakeholders to use such a structure to facilitate capturing and highlighting the key messages across the three questions.*

**Where do we want to go?**

*Vision of the future for your organization and/or sector in terms of its possible role in achieving the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

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| Without addressing food and agriculture emissions more effectively and directly, the Paris targets cannot be met. The recent IPCC report’s four scenarios to achieve a 1.5C increase in atmospheric warming paint a stark reality. GHG emissions from agriculture — principally caused by the production of animal-based foods — must be reduced dramatically and we must transform our energy sector to renewables and protect and vastly expand forests. It is no longer a matter of debate: non-CO2 GHGs in the agriculture and land sector must be addressed as central element of global, national, and sub-national climate policy. Including concrete, comprehensive food and agriculture policy measures in NDCs offers an opportunity to reduce GHGs as well as promoting food security, protecting biodiversity and non-human animals, and advancing public health goals.  The global food system as a whole (farming, transportation, packing, etc.) contributes 20 to 30 percent of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. According to the FAO, the global livestock sector accounts for 14.5 percent of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon dioxide is released via soil tilling and the transport of livestock and feed grains, such as corn and soy. It is also released by treating livestock-feed grains with nitrogen-based fertilizers and petroleum-based pesticides. Methane, though lower in concentration in Earth’s atmosphere than CO2, is much more efficient in trapping heat. Methane emissions result mainly through the belching and flatulence of ruminant livestock, as well as storage of manure. Nitrous oxide, another major greenhouse gas, is also released primarily through animal waste. Brighter Green seeksto engage, link, and find ways to collaborate and push forward ambitious climate action in the food, agriculture, and land use sector, by focusing on mitigation and co-benefits from shifting both diets and production methods toward more sustainable, equitable, and climate-compatible models. |

*Possible and potential new commitments and pledges of to achieve the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

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| A growing body of research suggests that meeting climate goals will require changing both how food is produced and which kinds of food are consumed. Shifts toward more plant-rich diets can go a long way. Replacing just 30 percent of beef with legumes lowers the greenhouse gas emissions associated with an individual’s diet by 16 percent. Food consumption can make up 14 to 20 percent of a city’s total greenhouse gas emissions, based on US cities who have measured food’s contribution.  To hold temperatures below 2°C will require not only the rapid reduction of CO2 emissions, but also those of other GHGs, including methane, which is twenty-five times more potent a GHG than CO2. It also has a much shorter life in the atmosphere than CO2, suggesting that reducing methane emissions, in line with reducing CO2, could have a considerable short- and long-term effect on atmospheric warming. Nearly half of the world’s methane emissions come from the livestock sector. Nonetheless, global meat consumption could rise by 76 percent by 2050. Without government intervention, consumers are unlikely to eat less meat, and agricultural producers have little incentive to reduce supply.  Global climate and development policies should put a priority on promoting sustainable diets and systems of food production. Several of the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would support such efforts, especially goals 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 12 (responsible production and consumption), 13 (combat climate change and its impacts), and 15 (life on land). As the SDGs more fully inform global development priorities and funding for them, and are integrated with global climate policy, it will be important for researchers and advocates for sustainable diets and food systems to encourage governments and international agencies to develop concrete policy measures and provide the budgets needed to implement them. |

*Foreseen positive impact of these commitments once they are realized, including contributions to the sustainable development agenda [Maximum 300 words]*

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| We already use three-quarters of Earth’s arable land and a third of cereal crops to feed farmed animals, [which could rise to half by 2050](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/nov/19/population-crisis-farm-animals-laying-waste-to-planet), especially as the UN estimates that global annual meat production will grow to [376 million](http://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/3_foodconsumption/en/index4.html)metric tons by 2030. A [recent study](http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/05/15/1711842115) calculated that domesticated livestock constitute 60 percent of the biomass of all mammals alive on Earth (humans were 36 percent and wild species a mere four percent). In 2018, [new records have been set for heat](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/capital-weather-gang/wp/2018/07/03/hot-planet-all-time-heat-records-have-been-set-all-over-the-world-in-last-week/?utm_term=.9206aee2f7ac) around the planet.  [Projections of temperature increase](https://wriorg.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/uploads/figure2_.png) in mid-century (over 2000) threaten to diminish crop yields in America’s breadbasket and elsewhere. This makes it harder to grow the corn and soy that feed billions of farm animals in the U.S. and around the world.  Animal agriculture as a whole must change. This would mean a reorientation from large-scale animal agriculture toward more sustainable, climate-compatible means of producing and consuming food. Such a transition would also provide opportunities for protecting forests, grasslands, and soils, as well as restoring landscapes to enhance nature-based systems of carbon sequestration. Such protection and restoration will also have multiple additional benefits for natural resources (e.g., water, land, air), public health, livelihoods, and biodiversity.  While it may be true that people want to eat more meat and dairy products, as the new IPCC report indicates, our current trajectory shows that expanding animal agriculture and drastically reducing GHGs contradict each other and may be leading us off a climate cliff. Governments should take bold steps to internalize the costs of meat production, including to the global climate, and end tax and other incentives for growing feed crops. Given the potential, and the benefits, why wouldn’t reducing GHGs from meat (and other animal-based foods) consumption and production become a priority for governments through the Talanoa Dialogue and follow up processes? |