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联合国粮食及农业组织
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Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture
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Submission by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in relation to the Sharm el-Sheikh online portal under the mandate of decision FCCC/SB/2024/L.2, paragraph 4

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) welcomes the opportunity to share information on their activities related to the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security (SJWA) via the Sharm el-Sheikh online portal as mandated by decision FCCC/SB/2024/L.2 paragraph 4.

Agriculture is a significant contributor to climate change, and in turn, climate change increasingly impacts the agricultural sector, undermining global ambitions for food security and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Agrifood systems account for 30% of total global greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)[i] while at the same time being among the most vulnerable sectors to climate change, facing adverse effects from climate change impacts. However, they also have the potential to play a central role in providing solutions to the climate crisis.

Consequently, strong, ambitious, and urgent climate action through agriculture is essential. The SJWA represents an opportunity to deliver this ambition and action, both at the national and local levels through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and at the international level, as agriculture is addressed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other international forums.

FAO is committed to climate action in agrifood systems, with the overarching goal of reducing rural poverty, eliminating hunger, and achieving food security for all while enhancing the productivity, resilience, and sustainability of agricultural sectors. This submission is part of the supportive and facilitative work provided by FAO throughout and prior to the SJWA to ensure the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, facilitate productive discussions, and ensure that agriculture is prioritized and well-integrated into the UNFCCC agenda moving forward. The submission summarizes FAO's approach to addressing climate change and highlights key initiatives, policies, and projects related to the joint work and overall action on climate change and agriculture.

1) Mainstreaming Climate Change in FAO Strategic Framework and Strategy on Climate Change

Since 2015, climate change was adopted as a cross-cutting theme of the FAO Strategic Framework, ensuring that climate implications and opportunities are reflected at both regional and country levels. To guide and support this work, the first FAO Strategy on Climate Change was adopted in 2017[ii] and its impacts along with the FAO's contributions to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13 evaluated in 2020[iii]. A new FAO Strategy on Climate Change for 2022–2031[iv] was endorsed by all Member Countries and builds upon the 2017 FAO Strategy on Climate Change, incorporating the latest international developments and scientific evidence. It is closely aligned with the Strategic Framework's[v] Programme Priority Area 'Better Environment 1: Climate Change Mitigating and Adapted Agrifood Systems.'

The Progress on implementation of the Action Plan of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change in the 2022-23[vi] indicates that climate-related activities account for a quarter of FAO' portfolio, with over half occurring at the country level. All regions have substantial climate portfolios, ranging from 34% in Latin America and the Caribbean to 20% in sub-Saharan Africa. The main focuses include supporting national climate commitments, strengthening community resilience, and providing policy and legal assistance to integrate climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation considerations.

2) FAO's work on climate change

FAO's work on climate change focuses on supporting countries to develop and implement solutions for climate adaptation and mitigation in the agrifood systems, while also delivering on biodiversity, food security and livelihoods goals. The main priority areas of climate related work include the following:

- Coherent Policy Frameworks for Climate Action in Agrifood Systems. FAO possesses extensive experience in assisting countries in integrating climate change and sustainable development considerations into agrifood systems. FAO offers technical support and capacity development for the formulation and implementation of agrifood systems-related components of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This support is realized through tailored inclusive national planning, ensuring policy coherence, targeted policy support, and strengthening private sector engagement. Some of these initiatives are highlighted through the FAO-UNDP *joint Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-Ag)*[vii] and *Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture (SCALA)* programmes along with the *NDC Agrifood System Helpdesk*[viii].
- The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF). FAO actively assists countries in meeting Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) requirements in the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sectors through the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) along other programmes. It encompasses various activities, including the development of national GHG inventories, reporting mitigation actions and tracking adaptation efforts, monitoring bilateral and multilateral climate finance flows, and providing a comprehensive array of tools and resources to enhance transparency efforts.
- Strengthening Capacities for Global Climate Action. FAO has a strong track record in building capacities for climate action through agrifood systems at international level by strengthening the capacities of ministries of agriculture to actively engage in international climate negotiations and to align international agreements with the national policies. Such support has been provided through the current Agrifood Sharm-El Sheikh Support Programme launched in 2023, as well as past programmes contributing to the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture[ix]Ě FAO also hosts the Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership, which aims to accelerate the transformation of agrifood systems by 2030 and to enhance both the quantity and quality of climate finance directed towards sustainable agriculture and food systems. This partnership supports adaptation measures, seeks to maintain a 1.5-degree Celsius climate pathway, and ensures food and economic security for vulnerable populations. To help farmers navigate their way through dozens of initiatives and programs working to support climate-resilient agrifood systems transformation, FAO, in partnership with the Azerbaijan COP29 Presidency, launched the Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers. This initiative will work within the framework of the FAST Partnership to maximize synergies and further strengthening COP-to-COP collaboration on agrifood systems.
- Providing Research, Analysis, and Tools for Climate Action. FAO is a leading global source of technical expertise on climate action within agrifood systems. FAO develops innovative tools and disseminates existing resources to assist countries in assessing climate impacts, planning appropriate responses, and fulfilling national reporting requirements, with a particular emphasis on strengthening the evidence base for resilience, adaptation, and mitigation. All of FAO's climate change-related data, learning materials, guidelines, policy

advice, and tools are accessible through the Climate Change Knowledge Hub (CCK-Hub)[x]—a web-based portal that consolidates existing knowledge and resources on climate change in the agriculture and land use sectors.

- Access to climate finance. FAO supports countries with access to finance through several funding channels including the Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility and Adaptation Fund, and through bilateral funding and support setting up carbon projects.

  FAO became a GCF Accredited Entity in 2018. Since then, the FAO-GCF partnership has unlocked over USD 1.4 billion in financing for climate projects by 2024, resulting in 22 approved funding proposals, 89 readiness projects, and 8 collaborative projects with other Accredited Entities.

  Through the FAO-GEF partnership established in 2006, FAO has implemented over 397 projects in 140 countries, with a total value of USD 1.849 billion from GEF financing and USD 13.19 billion in co-financing. In the 2022–23 biennium alone, FAO has already mobilized, under the GEF-8 replenishment, about 80 percent of the total amount of grants mobilized in the four years of GEF-7, and over 30 percent of the USD 1.7 billion FAO in the history of the FAO–GEF partnership, supporting 69 FAO Member Nations across all regions in accessing USD 485 million for 83 projects, most of them addressing several environmental challenges through integrated approaches. More recently, building on GEF's integrated programs from GEF-6 (Food Security in Africa and Taking Deforestation out of Commodity Supply Chains) and GEF-7 (Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program), the Food Systems Integrated Programme under GEF-8, led by FAO and IFAD, will address the underlying drivers of unsustainability in the food system. This will be achieved by transforming and strengthening value chains, business models, finance frameworks, and policy conditions. Additionally, the program is expected to benefit 3.4 million people while reducing emissions by 174 million tons of CO2 equivalent. Detailed informational about all GEF projects available here: https://www.fao.org/gef/projects/en

  FAO has been counting on the valuable support from bilateral donors, amounting to about USD 414 million provided to projects with climate change as the principal objective over 2022-23. Amongst bilateral donors, 11 have contributed above USD 10 million (by decreasing level of voluntary contributions: the United States of America, the European Union, Norway, Canada, Germany, Mexico, Burundi, Sweden, Japan, Pakistan, and the Republic of Korea).

Further highlights of relevant FAO activities pertaining to the SJWA will be included in Annex I and shared in January 2025. The annex will include projects, initiatives and tools and will align with the classification outlined in the decision FCCC/SB/2024/L.8, Annex I.

3) Conclusion

FAO will continue to collaborate with the UNFCCC and various global, regional, national, and local partners to accelerate implementation on the ground. This includes strengthening policies, providing technical support, building institutional and community-level capacity, and delivering actionable solutions tailored to local contexts. By leveraging partnerships and fostering synergies, FAO is committed to translating international climate commitments into tangible outcomes that benefit communities, enhance livelihoods, and promote sustainable, climate-resilient agri-food systems worldwide.

These collective efforts aim to foster meaningful change, ensuring that vulnerable communities are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and resources necessary to adapt to climate change, mitigate its impacts, and build a more sustainable and food-secure future.

[i] FAO. 2023. Agrifood systems and land-related emissions. Global, regional and country trends, 2001– 2021. FAOSTAT Analytical Briefs Series No. 73. Rome. (Also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/487c7f4e-91ff-4d23-b1e4-f72dd867e939/content).

[ii] FAO. 2017. FAO Strategy on Climate Change. Rome. (also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/i7175en).

[iii] FAO. 2021. Evaluation of FAO's support to climate action (SDG 13) and the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change (2017). Thematic Evaluation Series, 03/2021. Rome. (also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f631f933-5f50-4291-ac48-381eb493af3c/content).

[iv] FAO. 2022. FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022–2031. Rome. (also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f6270800-eec7-498f-9887-6d937c4f575a/content).

[v] FAO. 2022. FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-31. Rome. (also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/29404c26-c71d-4982-a899-77bdb2937eef/content).

[vi] FAO. 2024. Programme Implementation Report 2022-23. Annex 5: Progress on implementation of the Action Plan of the FAO Strategy on Climate Action 2022-31 in the 2022-23 biennium. Rome. (also available at: https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f54cba04-e452-4715-a6dc-948674bcdbed/content).

[vii] FAO. 2024. Integrating Agriculture into NAPs Programme (NAP-Ag). (Also available at: https://www.fao.org/in-action/naps/en/).

[viii] FAO.2024. NDC Agrifood System Help Desk. (Also available at: https://www.fao.org/climate-change/action-areas/policy-support/nationally-determined-contributions-and-long-term-strategies-3-0/en).

[ix] FAO. 2024. Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security. (Also available at: https://www.fao.org/climate-change/action-areas/climate-negotiations/sharm-el-sheikh-joint-work/en).

[x] FAO. 2024. Climate Change Knowledge Hub (CCK-Hub). (also available at: https://www.fao.org/climate-change/knowledge-hub/en/).