



UNFCCC COP 25

Concept Note Nexus Roundtable: Agri-food chains

Advancing Climate Actions on Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Food Chains for a 1.5° C Net Zero World

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Thursday, 5 December 2019
11:30 to 13:00

Leads: FAO, A2R and Global Resilience Partnership

Supporting Organisations: Alliance for a Green Revolution (AGRA), Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), CGIAR Climate Change and Food Security Research Programme (CCAFS), Earth Security Group, EAT Forum, Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA), Huairou Commission, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, iDE, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRRR), Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and World Bank.

Version 22 November 2019



Advancing Climate Actions on Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Food Chains for a 1.5° C Net Zero World

Background:

There is now compelling evidence on why we need to urgently transform our food and agriculture systems, including food value chains, to deliver a hunger free, prosperous and resilient 1.5°C net zero world. For example, in the last year there have been six major reports:

- [EAT-Lancet Report on Healthy Diets From Sustainable Food Systems](#)
- [Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#)
- [IPCC Report: Climate Change and Land](#)
- [Global Commission on Adaptation \(GCA\) Report](#)
- [Global report from the Food and Land Use Coalition \(FOLU\)](#)
- [Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition \(SOFI 2018\)](#)

These reports are all clear that the efforts of transforming the world's food and agriculture systems will need to deliver five sets of benefits:

- **Economic and livelihood benefits.**
A thriving agriculture food sector that is productive, and provides livelihoods and decent jobs for millions of people and 500 million smallholder farmers.
- **Healthy and well-nourished populations.**
Tackles the two burdens of malnutrition and lift 820 million people from undernourishment and 680 million people from obesity.
- **Resilient food and agriculture systems.**
Risk-informed agriculture and food value chains that anticipate, cope and adapt to the impacts of climate change with farmers and all actors in value chain thriving and resilient.
- **Reduced environmental impacts from food and agriculture systems.**
A sector with reduced GHG emissions, on track to be carbon neutral and sequestering carbon into soils to help mitigate climate change; no loss of forests; reversing the decline in biodiversity; and, halting soil degradation. All as part of a circular economy in agriculture.
- **Reduced food loss and waste.**
Food loss and waste is reduced to achieve economic, environmental and social dividend, while contributing to food security and reducing GHG emissions.

There are an increasing number of actions and initiatives responding to this evidence and taking up the challenge to build climate resilient food and agriculture value chains and leading the overall transformation of food and agriculture systems. This is accompanied by a:

- Demand for urgent at scale climate action from Least Developed Countries (e.g., [LIFE-AR](#)) and growing prominence of agriculture in their NDCs.
- Growing interest for climate action from food and agribusiness companies in making their value chains climate smart and resilient.
- Desire by public and private investors to find opportunities to invest in climate resilient/smart agriculture.
- Focus on getting money (especially climate finance) to where and when it matters at the local level and full engagement of grassroots and rural farming communities.

This was recognized by the launch of actions on food and agriculture value chains as part of the resilience and adaptation track and the Nature-based Solutions track at the UN Climate Action Summit (UNCAS). This roundtable will focus on how these climate actions, and other ongoing initiatives, can be implemented at scale, and promote resilient and sustainable food and agriculture systems as part of an inclusive just transformation of the sector and advancement of circular economy.

Objectives of the event:

The purpose of the event is to increase the ambition for climate action in food and agriculture value chains to deliver inclusive, resilient and sustainable systems. It has three objectives to:

1. Strengthen the awareness of ongoing climate actions to build climate-resilient agriculture and food value chains including actions launched at UNCAS.
2. Demonstrate how these actions will benefit smallholder farmers and communities living in countries most impacted by climate change, especially in Least Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.
3. Identify the main challenges and opportunities to take these actions to scale, and how they can be tracked.

Across these three objectives, a focus will be on how to engage marginalised groups including women, youth, indigenous people and people living with disabilities to achieve full inclusion and equitable outcomes.

Food and agriculture systems, from production to consumption, are essential climate solutions and the event will use examples of climate actions from across the whole value chain including from: a cross sectoral approach including actions from transport, water and energy sectors; use and adoption of nature-based solutions to agricultural production; actions to prevent food loss and waste across the whole agriculture and food value chain; actions to avoid deforestation, halt land degradation and restore degraded lands; and, approaches to track actions and the standards and metrics needed for climate resilient and sustainable agriculture and food value chains.



Links to 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit (UNCAS):

This roundtable will directly address the UNCAS [Call for Action on Adaptation and Resilience](#) and [The Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Manifesto](#) and the implementation of the number of specific initiatives on food and agriculture including some of but to restricted to the following:

- [Resilient livelihoods and landscapes](#), a partnership for a Just Rural Transition to resilient food, land-use and eco-systems.
- Redesigning, Repurposing and Reinvesting Public Support to Agrifood Sectors.
- Global Commission on Adaptation action track on [Agriculture and Food Security](#) for small-scale food producers.
- African Adaptation Initiative ([AAI](#)) and its associated [Adaptation of African Agriculture Initiative \(AAAI\)](#).
- [LIFE-AR](#) (Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience) aims to drive historic shift towards a more effective and more ambitious global climate response.
- [Growing Better: Ten Critical Transitions to Transform Food and Land Use](#), Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU). FOLU are developing a tracker under this.
- [Value Chain Risk to Resilience \(R2R\)](#), building resilient value chains and resilient communities led by BSR and GRP.
- [One Planet Business for Biodiversity](#) and action-oriented business coalition on biodiversity with a specific focus on agriculture.

Format and Speakers:

Format:

Moderated 90-minute roundtable discussion, without power point presentations and on short interventions with Mentimeter contributions from all participants in the room. The roundtable speakers will be on an invite only basis, but with the room open to all stakeholders.

Speakers and Participants:

Up to fifty people will be invited to sit at the roundtable with up to twenty invited to come with prepared interventions on climate action in agriculture and food systems to address one of three questions:

1. How are new and existing initiatives taking transformative action at scale to deliver resilient and sustainable agriculture food chains?
2. How are climate actions on building resilient and sustainable agriculture food value chains benefiting all in the system (from farm to fork) – especially smallholder farmers, communities and SMES in countries (LDCs and SIDS) most impacted by climate change?
3. What are the main challenges and opportunities to implement and track climate actions on building resilient and sustainable agriculture food chains to scale?



Participants and speakers are expected to come from four main groups:

- Representatives from farmer organisations and small scale enterprises working in the agriculture food chains who are taking action;
- CEOs agribusiness companies who are taking action and have solutions to enhance the resilience and sustainability of agriculture food chains;
- Ministers, Heads of IFIs, Multi-lateral and NGOs, who are leading initiatives and investments to build resilient and sustainable agriculture food chains. This is expected to include representatives who launched initiatives at UNCAS and other relevant actions.;
- Representatives from international and national knowledge and research organisations working on solutions for resilient and sustainable agriculture and food value chains and circular economy in agriculture.