

**Marrakech  
Partnership**



**Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action**

**Event Outcome  
Action Event:**

**UNFCCC COP 27  
Sharm El Sheik**

12 November 2022  
14:00 – 15:30

Organised by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon Center for Global Citizens, Boston Consulting Group, CGIAR, World Economic Forum, and WWF International

# GCA Resilient and Adaptive Food Systems Breakthrough Lab

## SECTION 1 - ACTION EVENT

### Key Messages

A mix of more than 70 participants from the private sector, government and civil society participated in a dynamic breakthrough lab, where they discussed the potential for sustainable food systems to achieve multiple impacts and benefits.

The event introduced breakthrough innovations and policy approaches showing ways to address resilience and adaptation to climate change in food systems, and the co-benefits of reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity and environment, increasing productivity, improving diets, and addressing socio-economic dimension of the communities relying on food systems for their income. More specifically:

- Sustainable Resilient and adaptive food systems offer solutions to the environment, biodiversity and climate crisis;
- Repurposed and targeted climate finance and agricultural subsidies enhance adaptive capacities and increase resilience of food systems; and
- Policies provide an enabling environment to transform food systems and strengthen their resilience and adaptive capacities towards impacts of climate change.

### Outcomes

#### Demonstrated implementation and showcase concrete examples of action

The event showcased concrete examples of action under protecting biodiversity and environment, increasing productivity, improving diets and addressing socio-economic dimensions of resilient and adaptive food systems, including:

- “Lighthouse in the desert” - a model that allows Egyptian farmers to sequester 10-20 tons carbon per acre, compared to Egypt’s average of five tons per acre and is implemented by SEKEM. The community vision aims to upscale funding to USD 250,000 in the next three years, and could contribute to reducing Egyptian CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 50 percent. The mission is implemented through community vision and cutting edge carbon market opportunities and to achieve implementation at scale.
- West African company Serious Shea, presented the zero carbon and deforestation-free process for shea cultivation. A block chain and data collaboration platform allows company to capture food, condition it, and bring it to the market to reduce post-harvest losses (historically up to 90 percent in some areas) and delivering fair profits to the small-holder farmers, particularly the women; and
- Danone’s commitment to zero net carbon emissions by 2050, and drastic changes needed in their supply chain. It is transforming at a large scale to be more inclusive, particularly to small-farmers and women.

#### Contributed to the COP27 outcomes on progress in implementation of mitigation/resilience and finance goals

The main pillars of the event focussed on mitigation, resilience, and finance.

The event highlighted carbon mitigation potential to support sustainable farming practices, although there are still gaps for soil carbon. Connecting agricultural operations across scales of small-holder farmers and large industry to markets and appropriate financing was central to the discussion. Some of the highlights included:

- Rabobank's Banking for Food Strategy includes investing in small holder farmers, an equal systems approach (building cooperatives, unlocking materials for easy access, digitizing, and tailor-made solutions), and their carbon credits in Africa that are over 30 euros per ton.
- African Business Angel Network (ABAN) described their investment of approximately 400 million dollars in innovated solutions across various sectors, including agritech. In 2023 ABAN will launch the first climate smart agriculture angel investor network.
- Additionally, better access to small-scale finance and insurance products and the absence of financial actors and the need to bring them to the table was highlighted.

#### Targetted near-term implementation and action to accelerate progress:

**Enabling policies for resilient and adaptive food systems.** Participants agreed that there is a need for food systems policies that create better market incentives, strengthen regulation and institutions, and fund research and development climate-resilient technologies and practices. The intention of this policy change is to accelerate the adoption of better practices for resilient food systems that are accessible across the sectors of agrifood systems.

#### Provided a contribution towards achieving the goals/milestones set in the [Climate Action Pathways, 2030 Breakthroughs and Adaptation and Resilience Outcome Targets](#)

The main sectors of the Climate Action Pathways for Land Use are Protect, Restore, Produce, and Supply Chain, Consumption, diets and waste. This event showcased contributions towards these sectors and the 2021 goal of countries enabling policies for transition of agricultural production towards resilient, low carbon, agroecological, regenerative and climate smart practices.

Furthermore, contributions were made towards the 2021 goal of reducing financial risks, lowering transaction costs, facilitating financial transactions, and enabling access to financial services and long-term investment for small-scale farmers and forest landowners. This progress was seen in the presentation by ABAN, Rabobank, SEKEM, Serious Shea, The Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens, Danone, CGIAR, Senegal and Costa Rica government representatives, and research sector representatives.

#### Highlight the importance and elevate efforts of resilience and adaptation

This event highlighted the importance of having an enabling environment that fosters and embraces innovation and sustainable practices, substantial and purposely targeted investment, and major policy reform for resilient and adaptive food systems. Panelists Helmy Abouleish, William Kwende, and Facundo Etchebehere discussed practical, central, and on the ground examples of this, referenced in section 1.

#### Strengthened collaboration with all stakeholders, including the national governments and non-Party stakeholders

This event brought together stakeholders for a co-learning discussion. Included were: representatives from farmer organizations and small-scale enterprises working in the agriculture and food systems, CEOs of agribusiness companies who are implementing breakthrough practices towards resilient and adaptive food systems, financial institutions and

private sector companies who are leading initiatives and investments to build resilient and adaptive food systems, knowledge and research organizations working on solutions for resilient and adaptive food systems, government representatives.

## SECTION 2 – STOCKTAKE ON ACTION

### Overview of progress and implementation in 2022

Challenges include scaling-up the proposed solutions, including small-holder farmers and women in the just transition and policy process, unlocking adequate finance, harnessing political will, and shifting markets to a sustainable circular bioeconomy that supports the proper affordable nutrition of people as well as the livelihoods of farmers and agrifood system value chain actors.

Supporting the progress and implementation of MP stakeholders is increased technological capacity sharing and knowledge, engagement of the private sector in investing in climate smart agriculture ventures and women and small-holder farmers, political movement towards more comprehensive and inclusive policy for conscientious sustainable land management by 2030.

## Section 3 – Action during 2023-2025

The three main objectives for climate action in the Land Use thematic area are:

- Resilient and adaptive food systems to mitigate the climate, environment and biodiversity crises
- Increased climate finance for resilient and adaptive food systems
- Enabling policies for resilient and adaptive food systems

Cross-cutting areas to these objectives are resilience and finance. Engaging partnerships with the other thematic areas such as Industry, Oceans and Coastal Zones, and Energy are crucial to swift, holistic, inclusive, sustainable and effective solutions.

To pursue these objectives international fora, such as the regional climate weeks, will be leveraged to bring together stakeholders for productive discussions regarding goals, progress, implementation and collaborative partnerships. These co-learning opportunities will support the development of enabling policy, and the gathering of finance in order to implement resilient and adaptive food systems that are inclusive across all socio-economic strata, regions, and groups. It is essential that momentum is maintained and sustainable land use is kept at the top of the international, and local, agenda in order to achieve the goals set by the Climate Action Pathways and 2030 Breakthroughs.