



**WORLD FARMERS'
ORGANISATION**

WFO POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

FARMERS' RECOMMENDATIONS

FARMERS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY¹

Food is a human right, and ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food is our mandate. Social inequalities drive poverty and malnutrition, with small-scale farmers, particularly rural women and youth, most affected by food insecurity. Supporting these farmers, acknowledging their vital role in local communities, and recognizing them as environmental stewards, are crucial for a hunger-free future.

Climate change, with extreme weather events, poses a major threat to food production. Adapting requires combining traditional knowledge, scientific research, and innovation. **Boosting farmers' productivity and profitability, while ensuring fair economic returns, is vital for securing food for future generations.**

THE FARMERS' RECOMMENDATIONS TO ACHIEVE

Stability in trade and adequate prices

An open, fair, and rules-based global trading system, alongside domestic agriculture supported by effective domestic policies, is critical for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and food security goals.

Main preconditions

- **Fair and transparent prices and margins** for agricultural produce and services.
- **Strong cooperation and fair sharing of value, risks and responsibilities** between the partners in the food chains.
- **Fair compensation** of publicly expected ecosystem services delivered through agriculture (including carbon sequestration to achieve carbon net zero).
- **Stable and predictable access to local, national and international markets.** Investments needed to build local and regional food value chains.
- **Support conservation systems to improve stocking and preservation of products** (better storage facilities, abattoirs and agro-processing infrastructures).
- **Access to transparent price and market information** in order to react to global market changes.

¹ The document presents farmers' recommendations based on the 'WFO Policy on Sustainable Global Food Security and Nutrition', adopted by the WFO General Assembly on 19 June 2024. For the full policy, please refer to the paper available at: https://www.wfo-oma.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/WFO-FoodSecurity-Policy_2024-GA-Adopted.pdf

A more efficient and professional agriculture

Main preconditions

- **Invest in training for farmers, extension services, foster entrepreneurship and applied research.**
- **Strong institutions**, assuring legal security and safe property rights, and minimising bureaucratic processes.
- **Support rural areas to develop infrastructure**, irrigation, drainage and water storages, seeds, as well as effective livestock breeding programs, and access to veterinary services.
- **Guarantee the issuance of patent rights for native plant species.**
- **Encourage the establishment of enhanced and profitable value chains for farmers** by fostering the creation of value chain agreements involving all stakeholders, from producers to retailers. This aims to strengthen farmers' negotiating leverage.
- **Shorten and streamline the agri-food value chain** so to eliminate unnecessary steps.
- Realise field implementations of precision livestock farming: **monitoring and managing technologies for livestock**, including continuous **health and welfare monitoring**.
- **Support farmers** in general, small-scale farmers, women and youth in particular, **in accessing agricultural inputs and infrastructure** to increase their production and productivity.
- **Monitor and optimise production costs** increasingly higher for the purchase of production inputs.
- **Improve access to financial services**, including financial literacy for farmers.
- **Foster local capacity building** through agricultural cooperatives and representative advocacy organisations.
- **Promote crop and livestock varieties** which are best adapted to the local circumstances, **oriented to protect and enhance biodiversity**.
- **Promote the availability of a balanced diet** based on the local and traditional preferences of the population.
- **Access to nutritious and natural food for all** means to guarantee a sustainable future for livestock production and the Blue Economy.
- **Invest in food security and nutrition education, and capacity-building on the right to food.**
- **Support circularity in food systems**, which advocates connecting arable and livestock systems to minimise loss and optimise the production of highly nutritious food.

Sustainable growth in agricultural production

Main preconditions

- **Support resource-efficient food production by sustainable use of natural resources** in all countries according to their pedo-climatical conditions.
- **Support and promote investment in sustainable agriculture and sustainable production systems**, including nutrient and energy recycling with agroecological and circular food system principles.
- **Empower farmers, family farmers, particularly women and youth, by providing them access to productive resources**, as well as all rural communities surrounded by natural resources.
- **Ensure farmers receive due recognition for their invaluable contributions and expertise in land management**, fostering meaningful conversations surrounding the establishment of natural capital markets.
- **Foster public spending on Research & Development in agriculture to promote innovation.**
- **Promote the digital transformation of the primary sector** and its development to boost efficiency, sustainability and competitiveness.
- **Establish financial conditions leading to effective development and resilience.**
- **Training and extension services**, in particular for rural women and youth.
- **Promote climate change-adapted crops** by maintaining a high diversity and increased use of local varieties.
- **Promote crop rotation and mixed cultures** to protect biodiversity and resilience of soil-plant functions for yield productivity.
- **Promote crop-livestock** and, where possible, **forestry integration through rotation, succession and/or consortium** to improve productivity, nutrient cycling, biodiversity and income diversification.
- **Promote efficient and clean use of energy** and **low emissions of greenhouse gases** per produced unit.
- **Optimise circularity in food systems** where nutrients are cycled, often via livestock and agricultural land is maximised for human nutrient provision.
- **Enhance buyer awareness** through targeted information campaigns, encouraging them to reconsider their price expectations for food in order to align with sustainability costs for farmers.
- **Reducing land consumption** (meaning the conversion of agricultural land for nonagricultural purposes) is essential to prevent a shortage of land availability for food production, crucial due to its nutrients, richness and preserving it is vital to maintain soil fertility and support sustainable agriculture.



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