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THE CLIMAKERS

Guidelines for Policy Makers

Farmer-driven, science-based, result-oriented solutions for the National Governments to successfully implement the Paris Agreement in Agriculture

The Climakers Initiative, the **Farmer-Driven Climate Change Agenda**, was conceived by the **World Farmers' Organisation (WFO)** in 2018 and is based on an **Alliance** through which farmers' organizations and main stakeholders in the agricultural sector work together to propose practical solutions and guidelines for a farmer-driven approach to climate policies.

The **Guidelines for Policymakers** offer national Governments solutions to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement at the national level, based on farmers' needs, expectations and best practices already implemented by producers, identified, and gathered by The Climakers Initiative. These guidelines explore three interrelated principles and outline some critical areas to help inform the national and global decision-making process to address climate change in agriculture.

Principles:

1. Governments have the opportunity to improve their NDCs thanks to these recommendations offered by the world farmers, based on their **practical solutions** validated by science according to a solid **science-based approach.**
2. It is important to integrate a **farmer-driven approach in decision-making** processes to better understand farmers' priorities and challenges related to adaptation and mitigation actions.
3. A **multi-stakeholder** perspective needs to be applied to actions on the ground and at national level, putting the farmers at the heart of it.

Farmers Solutions inspiring action:

1. **Water management and conservation practices**
   - In **Sri Lanka** farmers have placed coconut shells near the roots to cope drought.
   - In **France** farmers adopt innovative irrigation techniques to use water efficiently in wine production.
   - In **Guatemala and Honduras**, rainwater harvesting ponds maximize water efficiency and diversify food production.
   - In **Jamaica**, dams have been built to manage water run from the hillside, channeled for irrigation purposes.
   - In **Montserrat**, farmers harvest water mainly through tanks that collect water from the roof of houses and farm buildings.

2. **Soil management and conservation practices**
   - **In Germany** farmers include cover crops to reduce tillage.
   - **In Canada** farmers have adopted practices such as intercropping and winter cover crops.
   - **In Finland** land management increases the productivity of soils and the resilience of production during less favorable seasons.
   - **In the USA** farmers operate a 100% no-till system with increased cropping diversity.
   - **In Zimbabwe** farmers are applying Conservation Agriculture.

3. **Diversification and biodiversity conservation practices**
   - **In Palau** the practices consisted in reinforcing technology for the production of traditional crops (ureor beluu in particular) and establishing partnerships between farmers, local government, hospital and school to ensure availability of staple food to local population**.**
   - **In Kenya** farm forestry and afforestation activities are implemented.
   - **In Bhutan and Malaysia** farmers adopted key strategies, including reforestation programs.
   - **In Italy** cardoon, a local vegetal species, has been promoted and preserved as an innovative source of bioplastics and bio-lubricants.
   - **In Japan** several initiatives to return storks to nature have been taken.

4. **Alternative agricultural inputs transition practices**
   - **In Guatemala** farmers introduced organic fertilizers for soil conservation.
   - **In Nepal** farmers started to introduce seed treatments.
   - **In Ireland** farmers use pig slurry as a valuable fertilizer.
   - **In Belize**, farmers started to use fewer fertilizers by replacing them with biofertilizers.
   - **In Guatemala**, farmers introduced organic fertilizers for soil conservation.
   - **In Saint-Kitts**, farmers adopt alternative agricultural inputs which improve soil fertility.

Recommendations to Governments to improve NDCs in a farmer-driven, science-based, solution-oriented way:

- Embrace a farmer-driven approach, by involving farmers' organisations in the NDCs and NAPs design and implementation by the Governments is key to make national plan successful in the agricultural sector.
- Invest in filling the gap between farmers and public research so that science can provide farmers with effective answers.
- Build coherent food regulation and standards agreed among Governments, so that farmers can continue to meet society's demands for food while also protecting the climate.
- Direct the grant portion of climate finance to the farmers' organisations to enhance their capacity to accompany the transition process to sustainable food systems.
- Ensure that education and trainings, including advisory services, are more accessible for farmers.
- Improve accessibility and affordability of new technologies, and access to knowledge transfer on processes or practices that farmers are called to implement, in order to transition to sustainable agriculture.
- Encourage financial institutions to provide loans to farmers at lower cost, with fair use of collaterals.

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Farmers are the only economic actor able to adapt to and mitigate climate change simultaneously, and agriculture is the only sector that contributes to biodiversity conservation through regenerative agriculture practices.

The Climakers Alliance

FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

WORLD FARMERS' ORGANISATION

AACARI

SACAU

CEJA

EAFF

UMNAGRI

PAFO

IPNLF
INTERNATIONAL POLE & LINE FOUNDATION

PRIVATE SECTOR ASSOCIATIONS

ISF International Seed Federation
Seed is Life

CropLife INTERNATIONAL

UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTERS

CGIAR

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security

CCAFS

MEDIA PARTNERS

FARMING FIRST

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The Food and Land Use Coalition

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