

THE CLIMAKERS... SO FAR



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THE CLIMAKERS: THE FIRST EVER CLIMATE ACTION LED BY FARMERS!

None in the world is more vulnerable to climate change than farmers and no other economic actor can do more in a short window of time to mitigate and adapt to climate change than the farmers: they are at risk because of extreme weather events, which threaten their production and revenues, especially in some areas that already have high levels of food insecurity. At the same time, farmers must face another key challenge for the humankind: feeding the increasing global population sustainably and efficiently.

Although the agricultural sector is often identified as a cause of climate change, **farmers hold an important part of the solution to address the challenges of combating climate change and its impacts.** Farmers have unique practical expertise, a combination of formal education, traditional knowledge and experience from living and working on the land and with nature.

As of today, in the global political discussions on agriculture, including those addressing climate change issues, farmers have been the ultimate target of the decisions made by Governments and policymakers. Therefore, farmers have generally been “told” what to do without proper extension service projects, training, or any other capacity-building programmes, and **without any assurances that the political decisions consider their specific needs and expectations.**

In May 2018, to address these challenges, the General Assembly of the World Farmers’ Organisation (WFO), adopted a new agenda to enhance the position of the farmers in the global political discussion on climate change.

Born under the name of **Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda**, this initiative aims at promoting a reverse paradigm in the policy-making process on climate change in agriculture, based on a bottom-up approach, where **the Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs**, that national Governments are called to present and observe to implement the Paris Agreement, **are based on the best practices farmers have already identified as successful solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation, built on new science-based solutions and aligned with farmers’ needs to achieve the economic, social and environmental viability of the farming sector.**

As none can work alone, **WFO has called all the actors and stakeholders in the agricultural sector to stand on the farmers’ side and join the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance.**

On December 5th, 2018 within the framework of the COP24 Farmers Day, the initiative was launched in an official side event as the first ever climate action led by farmers, “The Climakers”.

This was just the beginning.

The COP 24 Farmers Day brings a wind of change in the global political debate on climate



Katowice, Poland, December 5th, 2018 – “A global alliance that aims to bring together, first and foremost, all the farmers of the world to promote farmers’ contribution to the Paris Climate Agreement”. With these words Dr Theo De Jager, President of the World Farmers’ Organization (WFO), welcomed the over 100 attendees that, on Wednesday December 5th, brought together in Katowice, Poland, within the context of the UNFCCC COP 24 Farmers Day, for the launch event of the first ever climate action led by farmers, “The Climakers. Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda”.

“Farmers are not alone in this new adventure but benefit from the trust of all the main actors of the agricultural sector that believe that farmers can have a real impact in the global decision-making process on climate change. If we don’t approach this as a team, we will not really make an impact”, said Dr De Jager during his opening remarks.

No one in the world is more vulnerable to climate change than farmers. They are at risk because of the effects of the weather events, which threatens their production and revenues, especially in some areas that already have high levels of food insecurity and scarce means of coping with adverse weather conditions. In the same time, farmers are called to play a crucial role to face another key challenge that the humankind is exposed to feeding the increasing global population in a sustainable and efficient way.

Although the agricultural sector is often identified as a cause of climate change, farmers hold an important part of the solution to address the challenges of combating climate change and its impacts. That is why farmers want that the political decisions take into account their needs and expectations.

The event featured the interventions from all the actors already engaged in the alliance, both farmers’ leaders from all over the world and other stakeholders committed to support this ambitious initiative, including representatives of the research world and the private sector, any one of which brought in the debate its own perspective.

It was the occasion for a forward-looking and constructive exchange among all the actors of the entire value chain on how “the Climakers”, farmers first, can drive the change in the global political debate on agriculture and climate change.

In the first part of the debate, the representatives of farmers’ organizations from Africa and Caribbean shared their willingness to work together to make the farmers’ contribution to the implementation of the Paris Agreement a success.

Mr. Abdelmajid Ezzar, president of the Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) highlighted the need of sustainable farming practices to face the climate change challenge, whereas Dr Majola Mabuza from the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) stated that farmers, especially young farmers, need to be part of the process. They need to engage with policy-makers at the right stage.

"The Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda is definitely the way to go and we stand firmly behind this progress", said Claude Browne, from the Agriculture Alliance of the Caribbean (AACARI), to reiterate AACARI commitment to be part of this Global Climate Change Alliance.

Then was the time of key stakeholders, representing the research world, the private sector, and the civil society to illustrate what they are currently doing or plan to do to support farmers in their challenging and ambitious initiative.

Ms. Anette Engelund Friis, Head of Partnerships & Outreach of CGIAR research program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, CCAFS, emphasized how much central is the farmers' role to drive the change and transformation that is needed in the agricultural sector and the wider food systems to achieve the Paris Agreement objectives. On the other hand, Mr. Clyde Graham, the Executive Vice-President of Fertilizer Canada, reminded the importance for farmers to become climate smart by considering the so called 4R of nutrient management (right source, right rate, right time, right rate).

In the ensuing discussion, all participants agreed on the relevance of working together to address the challenges of combating climate change and its impacts. As reminded by Yemah Mukum Melody of the Climate-Smart Agriculture Young Network (CSAYN), extreme weather conditions in every part of the globe do not leave anyone indifferent and working together offers the opportunity to reach an effective impact.

Farmers are ready to make a change and willing to be the change!

The solution starts with farmers... now!

This is just the beginning. All the farmers of the world, together with all the relevant stakeholders, are called to join their hands in a Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance and work together to strengthen farmers' engagement for an effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

THE CLIMAKERS Launch Event in the media

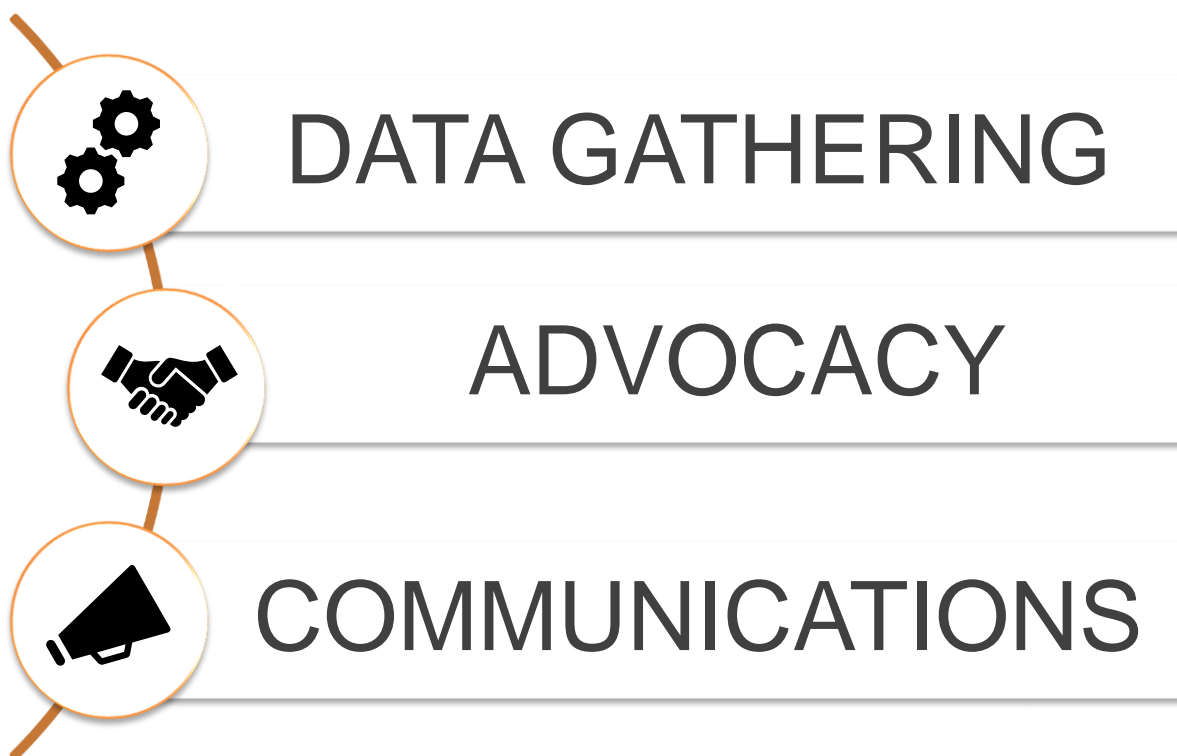
Check out what media and partners said about us!

DATE	NEWS MEDIA	TITLE
06.12.2018	YOUTH PRESS AGENCY	The Climakers: a global farmers' movement
07.12.2018	ITALIAN CLIMATE NETWORK	CLIMAKERS, DA AGRICOLTORE AD AGRICOLTORE: UNA COLLABORAZIONE PER IL FUTURO
10.12.2018	STAMPA GIOVANILE	Climakers: il movimento internazionale dei contadini
17.12.2018	Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy	COP 24: Time to draw the line between agribusiness and agriculture
07.12.2018	International Fertilizer Association	SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE “FARMERS’ DRIVEN CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA” AT COP24
28.12.2018	Farmer's Weekly (South Africa)	New farmer-driven climate change initiative
08.12.2018	CCAFS	Policy Advantage: Enabling a food systems transformation
07.12.2018	UK_NFU	COP24: A farmer-driven climate change agenda
11.12.2018	CIMMYT	Farmers cite climate change as biggest challenge, says World Farmers Organization at COP24 talks
06.12.2018	AGENCIA JOVEN INTERNACIONAL DE NOTICIAS	Los Climakers: un movimiento de agricultores global
06.12.2018	Agência Jovem de Notícias	Os “Climakers”: um movimento global de agricultores

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda identifies **three strategic pillars that give practical substance to the initiative in order to make the fight against climate change effective in the long run:**

- ✓ Collecting data from the farmers and transforming it into actionable insight, which contributes to win-win solutions to adapt to and mitigate climate change (**DATA GATHERING**);
- ✓ Establishing and developing a series of partnerships that will make the agenda global, in geographical terms, but also in scope by involving the main stakeholders in the agricultural sector in a Global Climate Change Alliance (**ADVOCACY**);
- ✓ Designing a communications campaign with the aim of raising awareness on the initiative and encouraging the main stakeholders of the agricultural sector to join the Alliance and advocate for it (**COMMUNICATIONS**).



HOW FAR WE'VE COME

DATA GATHERING

Raising awareness on the farmers' best practices

Farmers have unique practical expertise, a combination of formal education, traditional knowledge and experience from living and working on the land and with nature.

With their existing resources, farmers are already experimenting practical solutions to climate change, and these experiences need to be highlighted so that farmers can sit at the table and participate in setting the political agenda on climate change.

At the core of this data gathering campaign stand two questions:

a) What can farmers do to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

and

b) What do farmers need to do it?

Knowing that the answers to those questions in Oceania will not be the same as in Europe, and those in Africa will differ from the answers in Asia, **inputs from farmers on the ground are needed from each region to ensure that a wide set of best practices on mitigation and adaptation to climate change is collected.**

ONLINE CONSULTATION

In May 2019 the Climakers finalized and started circulating a survey and a case study template to collect best practices on mitigation and adaptation and set the scene for the Regional Consultations to be organized in 2019 and 2020 in Europe, Central/North America, Latin America and Caribbean, Asia/Oceania, Southern and Eastern Africa with the objective to raise awareness on the Climakers initiative.

Each member of the Alliance provided valuable contributions and suggestions to advance the process of carrying out a data gathering campaign that is still ongoing.

The survey and the case studies templates were launched and shared within the network of the farmers' organisations engaged in the Alliance as well as published on the dedicated initiative website through a specific link to the survey administration app "Google Form".

The case study template is designed to assess how climate change affects agriculture in submitters' country as well as to see which best practices farmers worldwide are implementing to adapt to it and/or mitigate its effects. Open-ended questions allow respondents to include more information, such as feelings, attitudes, and their understanding of the subject.

Concerning the survey, the questions are designed to capture the methods are used to adapt to and resist climate change, as well as what resources respondents have available at their farm-level if any. Furthermore, respondents can explain their answers.

The aim of the survey is to understand the developments farmers worldwide have made to their practices considering climate-influenced changes.

A first collection of 30 practices from different regions of the world assessed by CCAFS has been released as a first outcome of this pillar in a publication named "The Climakers – Stories from the field – Volume 1".

Both the case studies collection and the Inline survey will be ongoing throughout 2020 as well.

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS

The regional consultations aim at ensuring a wide geographical coverage in terms of participation and contribution to the data gathering campaign.



The first Regional Consultation took place from August 14th to 16th, 2019, in Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Caribbean. The event was hosted by the **Agriculture Alliance of the Caribbean (AACARI)**, with the support of the **International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF)** and featured the participation of over 50 delegates representing Farmers' Organizations from the Caribbean, Governments, multilateral institutions and research organizations.

Farmers from Belize, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Jamaica and St. Kitts and Nevis met at the Royal St. Kitts Hotel to discuss challenges and best practices on mitigation and adaptation to climate change as well as explore opportunities to enhance the position of the farmers in the global political discussion on climate change.

Key Messages from the Caribbean farmers

- ✓ Farmers are ready to work smart, achieving the three pillars of sustainability: good food production, environmental protection and positive effects on social environment;
- ✓ Farmers want to have an active role in setting the prices of their products;
- ✓ When and where possible, farmers' products should access the duty-free markets;
- ✓ Farmers are the first to rely on their produce: healthy food means first of all good food for their own families and communities. This is also an opportunity for the overall consumers' community;
- ✓ Consumers need to have the opportunity to choose the products they buy, also based on transparent information on food origins; eating locally produced food or imported food is a choice that consumers should make consciously;
- ✓ The effects of climate change are hitting mostly those small islands countries that are less industrialized and almost completely relying on agriculture. These countries can contribute a little to mitigate the climate change, but they are affected dramatically;
- ✓ In some countries, like Jamaica, Government has supplied the local farmers with computers and other devices that can give farmers access to weather forecast;
- ✓ Farmers' Organizations are key to ensure the participation of local farming communities in educational programmes and extension services that can support the farmers in adapting to the climate change effects;
- ✓ In Saint Kitts, small scale farmers have started implementing some measures that contribute to farm sustainability, for instance: making natural fertilizer with their produce; save seeds for the following years; soil rotation to make it healthy;
- ✓ In Belize, farmers and Government are working together to establish effective irrigation systems to face drought period. Also, since 2001 Belize has started to build greenhouse to make the use of fertilizer more effective;
- ✓ Use of local knowledge and direct farmers' experience are critical to effectively implement climate-smart agricultural programmes at country level.
- ✓ Policy environment that take into consideration the farmers direct expertise is key for boosting sustainability in the agricultural sector.



The second Regional Consultation took place on November 14th, 2019, in Brussels, Belgium.

The event was organized by the **European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA)** and hosted by the Committee of Professional Agricultural Organisations-General Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives (COPA-COGECA).

The event welcomed more than 140 participants, including farmers, stakeholders, policymakers and researchers.

Dedicated sessions on livestock, carbon farming, and adaptation and resilience followed showcasing best practices from farmers around Europe and what they are doing to mitigate and adapt to climate change. These were presented alongside inputs on the current state of research and legislation from academics, policymakers and private sector organisations.

The conference concluded with reflections on what had been discussed and the drafting of key messages from the Climakers Alliance to present at COP25 in December in Spain.

Key Messages from the European farmers

- ✓ Climate change is something we must all face together and that requires ambitious, worldwide action. Everybody has a role to play and nobody should be left behind. Farmers are the first to feel the impact of climate change and they already play a role and will continue to do so, but they cannot face these challenges alone.
- ✓ European farmers, forest owners and Agri cooperatives are committed to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and support it as an essential part of the European and global political agenda. It is crucial that farmers are involved in discussions, since they are the ones that will implement the necessary measures in the agricultural sector to deal with climate change in the years to come.;
- ✓ Farmers are improving their ability to mitigate the effects of climate change and reduce GHG emissions through good agricultural practices and by increasing the climate efficiency of food production, while they are strengthening their resilience and the way in which they adapt to climate-related hazards and natural disasters;
- ✓ For farmers to be in a position in which they can achieve their full potential and tackle the challenges associated with adapting to and mitigating climate change, there must be measures in place to protect their future. Academic bodies are increasingly incorporating farmers in research-designing processes and testing technologies and innovations on-field. Policymakers are also taking steps to include farmers when drafting legislation.
- ✓ Any best practices and experiences related to adapting to and mitigating climate change must be compatible with science. Technology and Innovation will improve farmers' performance: research and innovation are needed more than ever; sustainable finance will play a key role in adopting new, climate efficient production technologies;
- ✓ Farmers should be accompanied in the transition towards climate-smart business models, they have to see this transition as an opportunity to diversify their income. Farmers must be rewarded for their active role in reducing emissions or drawing down carbon from the atmosphere into soils and trees;
- ✓ If farmers take a bigger role to sequester carbon, their role can be rethought, and farmers can become providers of solutions. It is a win-win situation, both for the climate and the farmers. A diversity of farms and farming practices will enable the agricultural sector to face a range of present and future climate-change-related challenges;
- ✓ In order for farmers to do better, society must also acknowledge the efforts they are making. Consumers must be made aware of the fact that they have an important role to play in ensuring a sustainable sector by supporting farmers to make decisions to adapt to and mitigate climate change.

ADVOCACY

The Climate Change Alliance. Farmers first!

FARMERS' ORGANISATIONS



PRIVATE SECTOR ASSOCIATIONS



UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTERS



CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS



MEDIA PARTNERS



TECHNICAL PARTNERS



Starting from August 2018, several meetings took place with key potential partners for the global climate alliance, including the most accredited farmers' organizations and the main stakeholders in the agricultural sector, private sector entities and multilateral organizations to formalize a multi-year cooperation agreement, to make the fight against climate change effective in the long run.

As of today, the members of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance are: **World Farmers' Organisation (WFO)**, **Maghrebi and North African Farmers Union (UMNAGRI)**, **Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)**, **Agriculture Alliance for the Caribbean (AACARI)**, **European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA)** and **Eastern African Farmers Federation (EAFF)** as representatives of the Farmers' Organisations; **Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN)** and **PROCASUR** as Civil Society Organisations; **CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security**, **CAAFS**; **International Fertilizer Association (IFA)**, **CropLife International** and **International Seed Federation (ISF)** on the side of Private Sector Associations; **International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF)** from Taiwan, as Technical Partner; **Farming First** as Media Partner.

The Alliance is intended as unique on-going process of dialogue and consultation among the farmers and with all the actors of the value chain, where each player involved is a crucial piece of the puzzle.



On February 12th, 2019 WFO Headquarters in Rome hosted the first technical meeting of the members of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance.

This meeting was the first step of a long journey that will hopefully lead us to make an effective contribution to the global political discussion on climate change, giving voice to those who are part of the problem but who also holds the potential to solve it and who fight against it every day: the farmers.

Sharing expectations, knowing each other and building trust is fundamental for an Alliance of diverse actors as the Climakers are and this meeting was the first step towards this direction.

On May 20th, within the context of the WFO General Assembly, the Climakers gathered for the second time, to discuss on the progress made by the alliance and agree on the next steps.

The meeting provided a venue to further develop the points agreed during the first meeting, including the shared roles and responsibilities of the players involved, and envisage new opportunities and partnerships to make progress on the agenda, as to ensure that the initiative delivers its outcomes.

Each representative of the members of the Alliance provided valuable contributions and suggestions, thus embracing **the very spirit of the Climakers, a shared alliance for climate change, characterised by an authentic bottom-up approach.**



The Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda is very ambitious, and its success depends on the Climakers, each one and all of them.

Each and every member of the Alliance is essential in creating the conditions for reaching an effective impact.

"Farmers are not alone in this new adventure but benefit from the trust of all the main actors of the agricultural sector that believe that farmers can have a real impact in the global decision-making process on climate change. If we don't approach this as a team, we will not really make an impact"

Theo de Jager, President, World Farmers' Organisation

As founding member of the initiative, WFO never misses an opportunity to spread "the Climakers" message. Here's a roundup of events, meetings and global fora where WFO have called attention to the Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda until now:

2019 AFRICA CLIMATE WEEK

From 18 to 22 March 2019, Accra, Ghana

The 2019 Africa Climate Week (ACW2019) focused on how engagement between governments and non-governmental stakeholders can be strengthened across key sectors in Africa, specifically around issues relating to nature-based solutions, the energy transition and the critical role of cities and local action in addressing the climate challenge.

The World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) was present in Accra. Denis Kabiito from Uganda, facilitator of the WFO Youth Committee, and Nelson Agyemang from Ghana, facilitator of the WFO Working Group on Innovation, were engaged in several panels and roundtables, bringing the real-life perspective of farmers into the debate.

The event, the first of the series of regional climate events to be hosted this year ahead of the UN Climate Action Summit 2019 in September, provided the perfect venue to raise awareness on “The Climakers. Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda”.

AGROECOLOGY AS A MEANS TO ACHIEVE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

25 April 2019, Rome, Italy

On April 25th, the WFO Head of Policy Development, Luisa Volpe, joined the event “Agroecology as a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals” co-organized by Swiss FAO National Committee, FAO and Swiss Permanent Representation.

Speaking from the perspective of a farmers' organisation, Luisa Volpe reminded the audience that farmers should be more engaged in this kind of debates, at policy and research level, as they have their expertise on climate change adaptation and mitigation that they could share and that should be considered by policy makers, governments, agencies, investors, researchers. Farmers should no longer be considered as a target only but also as partners.

Multi-stakeholder initiatives and partnerships should be strengthened to foster integrated and multi-sectoral approaches to Sustainable Development by involving different actors, building trust, focusing on common ground rather than on differences only and actively engaging farmers.

GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

From 13 to 17 May 2019 Geneva, Switzerland

From May 13th to 17th 2019, the Global Platform on Disaster Reduction convened for the sixth time in Geneva, Switzerland, on the theme of “Resilience Dividend: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies.”

As representative the farmers' constituency within the Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM) for the implementation of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) was in Geneva and Tamisha Lee, President of our member organization from Jamaica, Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers (JNRWP) was engaged as WFO representative in several panels and roundtables, bringing the real-life perspective of farmers into the debate.

On behalf of WFO, Tamisha Lee sent a clear message to the audience: **“All of society” approaches recognizing farmers as active partners and solutions providers are central in the path towards the achievement of sustainable development for all.**



BONN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (SB-50)

From 17 to 27 June 2019, Bonn, Germany



The conference hosted a wide range of events, meetings, and negotiating sessions that aimed at setting the stage for a successful COP25 in Spain on December 2019.

A delegation of the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO), led by the President, Theo de Jager, joined the conference, getting involved in several panels and roundtables so ensuring that farmers' voice was heard.

As farmers' representative, de Jager emphasised **how important is within the NDCs process the communication to farmers, reminding the audience that communication means both saying and listening. including farmers' needs in the process is crucial to get the climate negotiations on agriculture to a practical and implementable level.**

UN HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HLPF2019)

From 9 to 18 July 2019, New York, US

From July 9th to 18th, the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) and its representatives from all over the world gathered in New York to attend the largest annual event on SDG implementation and reiterate that farmers, men, women and youth, are the most powerful actors to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

On July 12th, 2019, presenters and delegates discussed progress towards SDG 13 and addressed the inter-linkages of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Participants in the meeting shared experiences and identified concrete measures for the coherent and synergistic implementation of those agreements in order to maximize sustainable development and climate co-benefits and scale up levels of ambition towards securing the livelihoods for current and future generations.

Dimakatso Sekhoto (Nono), WFO Gymnasium young farmer from South Africa, intervened as lead discussant on behalf of the Farmers Major Group, calling the audience's attention to "the Climakers" initiative. Here an extract of Nono's speech:



Across the world, farmers have been forced to find strategies that ensure their survival as food producers to derive their income or to feed their communities, by mitigating and adapting to the climate change. As farmers, at global level, we would like to be granted an opportunity so that no farmer is left behind. For example, through "the Climakers initiative", dubbed "Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda", we intend to apply an authentic bottom-up approach, where farmers gain a leading role in the global political processes on climate change and agriculture. This renewed agenda is based on the best practices that farmers are already implementing as practical solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and is intended to be farmers-driven, science-based and result oriented. Given the central role that we, farmers play, we deserve to be at the centre of the decision-making process on agriculture at local, national and international levels, when it comes to climate change solutions. However, we require cooperation and support from private and public stakeholders in order for all farmers to scale up and replicate sustainable farming practices. [...] This is a call to governments and all relevant stakeholders, to finally realise that if agriculture is continuously associated with disastrous and unsolvable disasters, supported by inadequate planning then good luck securing the future of the survival of the human race.

FARMERS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES JOINING HANDS TO BOOST THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SDG 13 AND ITS LINK TO SDG 2

12 July 2019, New York, US

Co-organized by WFO and the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for the SDGs (IPMG), this side event was intended to promote the linkages between an effective implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda to achieve global sustainability.

Farmers and indigenous peoples joined their efforts to gather attention on the challenges they are facing, as well as to remind the global community of their key role in achieving sustainable development, with a special focus on SDG 2 and 13.



The speakers that came together to join the debate included among others: ZAK BLEICHER, Partnership Officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); GÁBOR FIGECZKY, Head of Global Policy, IFOAM – Organics International; ZITOUNI OULD-DADA, Deputy Director, Climate and Environment Division, FAO; LOLA GARCÍA-ALIX, Senior Advisor Global Governance, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA); JOAN CARLING, Co-Convenor, Indigenous Peoples Major Group for the SDGs (IPMG). As representative of the World

Farmers' Organisation (WFO), ANNE SCHWAGERL, WFO Gymnasium young farmer from Minnesota, emphasised how strong is the need of partnerships, calling the attendees' attention on the "Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance".

UN SUMMITS WEEK 2019

From 23 to 27 September 2019, New York, US

Several high-level meetings took place from September 23rd to 27th, within the framework of this year UN General Assembly General Debate (UNGA74), including the most critical climate meeting since the Paris Climate Summit, the Climate Action Summit, on Monday, September 23rd, convened by UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

A delegation of WFO, led by the President Dr Theo de Jager, joined this year UN Summits week, by taking part in several events, meetings, workshops and international discussions, so bringing the farmers' voice into the debate.

WFO participation at UNGA offered also a very fruitful opportunity for raising awareness on the "Climakers" initiative among several relevant stakeholders of the agricultural sector, including the World Bank.

5TH GLOBAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

From 8 to 10 October 2019, Bali, Indonesia

From October 8th to 10th 2019, Katrina Sarah Milne, President of Federated Farmers of New Zealand and WFO Board Member of the Oceanian Constituency, represented the World Farmers' Organisation at the 5th Global Science Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture in Bali, Indonesia.

The event gathered over 400 delegates from more than 200 institutions from across the globe, to explore the changes needed to help farmers and food systems both adapt to and mitigate climate change.

On behalf of WFO, Katrina Sarah Milne joined as a panellist the session "Farming at the frontline of climate change: Challenges and way forward". She brought into the debate a concrete example from New Zealand on climate-smart agriculture practices (and SDGs consequently), with a particular focus on the collaboration between government, farmers and research centres.

The conference offered the perfect venue to raise awareness on the "Climakers" initiative among several relevant stakeholders of the agricultural sector

46TH PLENARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

From 14 to 18 October 2019, Rome, Italy

From October 14th to 18th, the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) and its representatives, led by the President, Theo de Jager, joined the 46th Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS46).

As every year WFO got involved in several panels and roundtables so ensuring that farmers' voice was heard.

On October 17th, in a side event at the CFS46, the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) hosted, in collaboration with the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR) with the patronage of Italy's Permanent Representation to the United Nations Agencies and in partnership with Agro Camera – Rome Chamber of Commerce, a multi-sectoral panel on innovation in agriculture.

The panellists explored how innovation, conceived not only as technology but also as a way of engaging actors differently, can help in the path towards sustainable development, with agriculture playing a central role in this journey.

MAKER FAIRE 2019

From 18 to 20 October 2019, Rome, Italy

From October 18th to 20th, “the Climakers” was exhibited at the Maker Faire Rome 2019, the European edition of the greatest fair in the world for inventions and innovation on topics of robotics and artificial intelligence, circular economy, IoT – Internet of things, digital manufacturing, food tech and Agri tech, where “makers” are the main actors. Furthermore, within this three-day event, delegates of the agricultural sector gave a talk on different topics related to innovation in agriculture.

The exhibition, as well as the abovementioned “AgriTalks”, are the result of the collaboration between WFO and Agro Camera – Rome Chamber of Commerce.



UPCOMING EVENTS BY THE END OF 2019

December 2019 is around the corner and the Climakers are already on their way towards the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 25), in Madrid, Spain.

At the **UN Climate Change Conference (COP 25)**, from December 2nd to 13th, the result of the initial data gathering will be officially presented.

Overall, the official side events of the members of the Climate Change Alliance, as well as any meetings or events where the Alliance's members are invited to speak, represent a great opportunity to promote "The Climakers" initiative in the hope of establishing networks where all members have equal footing and can share their expertise. Moreover, an exhibition booth for "The Climakers" has been requested.

The Climakers as best practice of the SDG 13 implementation

"The Climakers" initiative has been recognized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) as an effective model of multi-stakeholder engagement for the implementation of SDG13.



On June 6th, DESA released a summary report consolidating messages from stakeholders on the implementation of the SDGs that will be reviewed during the July 2019 session of the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF): SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 13, SDG 16 and SDG 17.

When adopting the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States decided to undertake thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including cross-cutting issues.

In January and February 2019, DESA conducted an online consultation to promote broad and participatory engagement on the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda implementation.

As representative of the Farmers Major Group, WFO was invited to participate in the consultation and its inputs were included in the above-mentioned report.

This represents a tremendous achievement as it officially recognizes that working through the entire value chain in a joint bottom-up approach, including all the actors, not only the institutions, is the only way to get effective solutions for a sustainable future that everyone can benefit from.

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COMMUNICATIONS

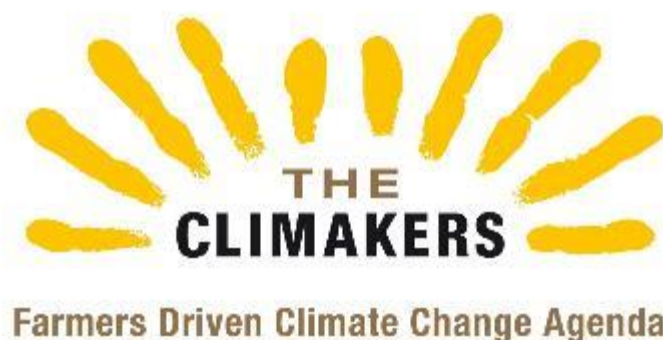
A Strategic Pillar!

Starting from October 2018, WFO worked with a creative agency on the official communications campaign of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda.

1. Creation of an ad hoc brand identity

To create a coordinated, continuous and cross-targeted “identity – identification” related to the project, **a creative concept was elaborated making the initiative recognizable, both at visual and conceptual levels.**

- ✓ **The visual has a double meaning. It could be seen as a sunrise or as farmers’ hands. Both are positive messages of hope.**
- ✓ **The naming is based on the concept that farmers are an important part of the solution to combat climate change**
- ✓ **The Pay Off “The Solution Starts with the Farmers... NOW!” summarizes the essence of the initiative in a very simple sentence.**



2. Realization and management of a dedicated website www.theclimaker.org

Launched at the end of November 2018, the dedicated website provides all useful information about the initiative.

The website, available in English, French and Spanish, was realized ensuring it was responsive and appealing in terms of design and the content was easy to find.

The seven macro-categories of the main menu in top portion of the website guide visitors through the website quickly, giving answers to four key questions: WHO WE ARE; WHA WE DO; WHAT ARE WE DOING; WHY JOINING US

3. Realization of audiovisual products

A touching video about philosophy, mission and objectives of the initiative was realized.

The video was displayed for the first time in a room full of people at the launch event of the initiative in Katowice, Poland, on the occasion of the UNFCCC COP 24 Farmers Day.

Now available on the homepage of “The Climakers” website, it motivates the audience towards the desired action: JOIN THE CLIMAKERS!

Messages are simple, easy to recall and attention-getting, promoting benefits of acting with and for the Climakers.

*MAKE a better climate, MAKE a sustainable future, MAKE the right choice
JOIN THE CLIMAKERS*

4. Creation of dedicated Facebook Page and Twitter Account and launch of ad hoc hashtags

Just before the official launch event of “The Climakers”, a [dedicated Facebook Page](#) and a [Twitter Account](#) were created to arouse interest and curiosity on the initiative among a broad audience.

Furthermore, the ad hoc hashtag [#theclimakers](#) was launched, inviting the social media engaged audiences to share the initiative on their social media.

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMARY

TWEETS	10 tweets per month
TWEET IMPRESSIONS	2,5K impressions per tweet
PROFILE VISITS	60 profile visits per month
MENTIONS	5 mentions per month
FOLLOWERS	20 NEW followers per month

TOP TWEET

earned 16,748 impressions and 2,452 Media Views



MAKE a better #climate!
MAKE a #sustainablefuture!
MAKE the #rightchoice!!!
Stand by #farmers and be a #climaker!
Join the FARMERS DRIVEN CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE
Great ambitions che only be achieved together!!!!
[#theclimakers](#) [#FarmersDay](#) [#COP24](#)



2:21 PM · Dec 5, 2018 · Twitter for iPhone

[View Tweet activity](#)

23 Retweets 42 Likes

TOP FOLLOWER

followed by 63.8K people



EU Agriculture 
@EUAgri [FOLLOWS YOU](#)

Food, farming and the future of agriculture 🌱 Sowing the seeds of EU Agriculture & Rural Development policy eu [#FutureofCAP](#) 🌾

[View profile](#)

[View followers dashboard](#)

5. Realization of dedicated materials and gadgets

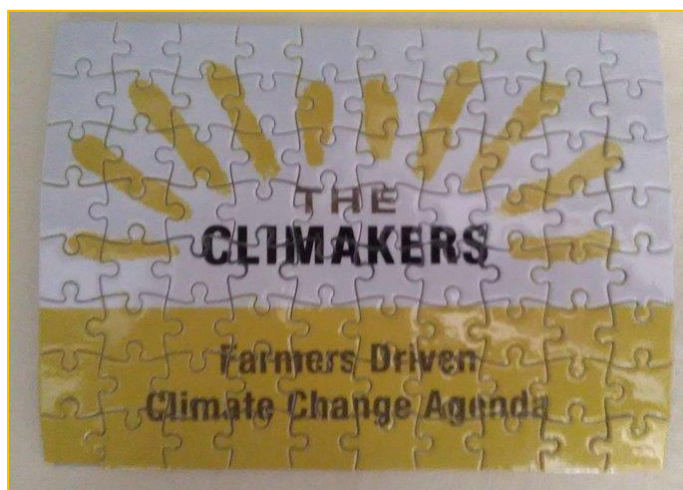
As of today, WFO was committed to increase awareness on “The Climakers” initiative also through the realization of promotional gadgets.

On the occasion on the official launch event of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Agenda, more than 2,500 stickers were handed out to the COP24 attendees.



Moreover, the WFO exhibition stand at COP 24 displayed wall and roll-up posters specially made for “The Climakers” official launch.





On the occasion of the 2019 WFO General Assembly in Luxembourg, that hosted the second technical meeting of the members of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance, over 1,000 puzzles representing “The Climakers” logo were distributed among the participants.

As well as the game in which you have to fit separate pieces together, in the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance each member is a crucial piece to reach an effective impact.

NEXT STEPS BEYOND COP25 AND TOWARDS COP26

A new era has begun in the global political discussion on climate change and agriculture and the valuable contribution of the members of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance will be key to keep the Climakers on the edge.

December 2019 is coming up and the Climakers have an ambitious agenda ahead of them, with important results to achieve.

A lot of responsibilities are waiting for the players involved, but also new opportunities and partnerships to make progress on the agenda, as to ensure that the initiative delivers its outcomes.

DATA GATHERING

The data-gathering campaign will be ongoing also after COP 25, and all the Alliance partners will be engaged in the dissemination of the survey and case study template.

Regional consultations in Africa, Asia and North America will be organized, knowing that leaving no one behind is crucial in this discussion.

ADVOCACY

Several international fora are waiting for the the Climakers, offering them important advocacy opportunities to amplify the Climakers message: the next IFAD Global Farmers' Forum, in February 2020, represents a great venue to promote the Climakers not only within the Rome-based UN Agencies, but also among the other farmers' organizations members of the FAFO Steering Committee.

The High-Level Political Forum 2020 is not far behind.

COP26 in Glasgow will represent a key moment for The Climakers to propose their pragmatic solutions on how to better tackle mitigation and adaptation and enhance NDCs.

COMMUNICATIONS

From a communications point of view, reinforcing and implementing a joint communication strategy that involves all the partners of the Alliance is essential to amplify the Climakers message.

Great ambitions can only be achieved together, thus embracing the very spirit of the Climakers, a shared alliance for climate change, characterised by an authentic bottom-up approach.