The Farmers’ Voice at the World Level
La Voz de Los Agricultores al Nivel Mundial
La Voix des Agriculteurs au Niveau Mondial
Farmers’ priorities on climate change
Mitigation and Adaptation

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Climate change, agriculture and farmers

- Farmers are faced with complex challenges
  - Climate change,
  - Food security
  - Poverty
  - Energy supply and production

The majority of the world farmers live in the developing countries and hit by severe poverty

- Links between climate change, agriculture and farmers
  - Agriculture covers 1/3 of the world land surface,
  - Farmers largest ecosystem managers,
  - 1/3 of the total workforce.
  - Agriculture accounts for 13.5% of global anthropogenic greenhouse gases (GHG) (According to the 4th IPCC report) or eq 6.8 Gt of CO2 eq per year. A growing trend
Climate change, agriculture and farmers

- Links between climate change, agriculture and farmers
  - Agriculture is also impacted by adverse effects of climate change
  - Agriculture and farmers are part of the solution on mitigation and adaptation
  - But the farmers cannot handle the burden (costs of adaptation and mitigation) by themselves

Climate change is everyone’s concerns: costs need to be borne by all stakeholders
How farmers are affected by climate change?

**Primary impacts** of climate change on farmers

=> direct effect on the physical & biological environment

- Shifting polewards will hinder crop growth
- Need for changes in crops and harvesting techniques = ADAPTATION on harvesting, sowing and management practices.
How farmers are affected by climate change?

Secondary impacts of climate change on farmers

- Deterioration of natural, social, physical and financial capital will lower farm productivity and endanger FOOD SECURITY and increase POVERTY and DESTITUTION
Farmers need not only remain as victims of climate change,

FARMERS ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION
## Farmers’ Solutions to reduce GHG emissions

The main GHGs in Agriculture are Methane ($\text{CH}_4$), Nitrous Oxide ($\text{N}_2\text{O}$) and $\text{CO}_2$

- Methane ($\text{CH}_4$): 9%
- Nitrous Oxide ($\text{N}_2\text{O}$): 2%
- Carbon Dioxide ($\text{CO}_2$): 89%

### Livestock & manure
- Manure, N-fertiliser and soil disturbance
  - Optimise fertiliser and manure application in time and rate
  - Use nitrogen-fixing crops
  - Limit compaction of soil

### Rice field
- Manure, N-fertiliser and soil disturbance
  - Optimise fertiliser and manure application in time and rate
  - Use nitrogen-fixing crops
  - Limit compaction of soil

### Biogas and fertiliser
- Manure, N-fertiliser and soil disturbance
  - Optimise fertiliser and manure application in time and rate
  - Use nitrogen-fixing crops
  - Limit compaction of soil

### Optimise growth of cattle for slaughter at younger age “shorter life cycle”

### Draining rice paddy fields

### Machineries, renewables, water, grazing, SLM
- Use biodiesel
- Maintain forested areas, cover crops
- Use minimum tillage and soil disturbance
- Use compost

70 % of agricultural mitigation potential is in developing countries
The IPCC (2007) defines adaptation as “an adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities”.

Farmers have been adapting to climatic variations for many centuries

Adaptation measures through

- Sustainable agricultural practices
- Technology developments
- Changing planting dates
- Planting different crop varieties/species
- Promotion of alternative crops
- Drought and heat-resistant varieties
- Intercropping
- Sustainable fertilizer
- Tillage practices
- Improved crop residue & weed mgt;
- Water harvesting techniques
- Pest and disease control
- Improving existing irrigation systems
- Improved livestock management
- Agroforestry practices
- Forest fire management
What would happen if agriculture is not included in the negotiations?

Adaptation

✓ No risk management tools to cope and prevent climate adverse effects

✓ Research on adaptive new crop varieties, impacts of climate change on the hydrological cycle, energy, regional impacts and other systems would be limited

✓ The adaptation fund would not be accessible to farmers

The adaptation cost would fall on the sector and farmers
Mitigation

- Agriculture would be penalised for emissions through unfair tax systems (biased accounting rules, no difference between natural and anthropogenic emissions)

- The contribution of agriculture to mitigation not recognised e.g. carbon sequestration, renewable energy, ecosystem services

What would happen if agriculture is not included in the negotiations?

Emission cost would have to be borne by farmers and agriculture to the benefit of other industries
Changed scenario

Agriculture

Important role in Climate Change

Copenhagen Agreement

Opportunity to integrate solutions and farmers’ active contribution
**IFAP’s Policy Recommendations**

| Positive incentive-based approach vs stick approach | Governments  
|                                               | Farmers organisations  
|                                               | International cooperation, farmer-to-farmer programs |
| (e.g. voluntary carbon credit programs, payment schemes for ecosystems services) |  |
| Invest substantially in sustainable agriculture to increase its resilience | Governments  
|                                               | Public spending  
|                                               | Private investors, donors  
|                                               | Researchers & agricultural extension services |
| Mainstreaming agriculture in climate change, development programs & policies | Governments (negotiating parties), UN agencies, donors, international/national bodies |
| Distinction between anthropogenic and non-anthropogenic emissions | Governments and international/national bodies |
Optimizing the mitigation potential in agriculture

1. Improvements in efficiency of agricultural productivity
2. Carbon storage & farmers rewarding for susst ag practices
3. Voluntary carbon credit systems
4. Global Evaluation System of GHG emissions from agriculture
5. Energy security through Sustainable bioenergy
6. Good governance & transparent public institutions
Agriculture needs support to adapt to climate change effects

- Risk management frameworks
- Farm specific cc information
- Link up science and policies
- Profitability: Economic development to increase resilience
- Integrated approach: Food, NRJ and Water at farm level
For an ambitious Financing framework

Positive incentives for climate-friendly agri practices and technologies

- Finance delivery mechanisms for agriculture e.g. CDM
- Ecosystem services
- Innovative financial mechanisms for transfer of technologies

Funding mechanisms for vulnerable farmers for adaptation

- Supporting FO’s to operate as aggregating agencies for access to financial mechanisms
- Mainstreaming climate efforts into development projects
Make technology more accessible for farmers

1- Improved tech & Education & extension services

2- Incentives for existing climate friendly technology

Pro-poor farming research

International technology transfer and capacity building programs

Farmers - Scientists partnerships Fit for use technology

Enhance scientific information on CH$_4$ and N$_2$O
Synergies and co-benefits in sustainable agriculture

- Increased agricultural productivity
- Socio-economic benefits
  - Farmers’ resilience
  - Farmers income, well-being, livelihoods
- Mitigation & Adaptation Climate Change UNFCCC
- Natural Resource Mgt & Ecosystem services
  - Agricultural Biodiversity
  - Sustainable land mgt
  - Sustainable water mgt
- Food and energy security
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Sustainable Development
- Food and energy security
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Sustainable Development
Key benefits of agricultural investments

- Investments, R & D Capacity Building, Technology transfer
- Public & Private Sector
- Research community
- Farmers
- Key stakeholders
- Sustainable Development
  - Social
  - Economic
  - Environment
- Adaptation
- Mitigation
- Co-benefits
- Synergies

FIPA IFAP
Essential outcomes of UNFCCC negotiations

IFAP Farmers call for:

- **Full integration** of agriculture in Climate Change negotiations
- **Recognition of the specificities of agriculture:**
  - Recognition of agriculture as affected sector
  - Recognition of farmers’ organisations as partners
  - Recognition and rewards for farmers’ emissions savings and carbon sequestration practices (accounting rules)
- **Increased investments** in sustainable agriculture
  - Priority in national and international budgets and strategies
- **Access to appropriate financing mechanisms**
Building IFAP policy position

- Setting up an IFAP Expert Group on Climate Change & Bioenergy

Two objectives
- Support IFAP policy formulation and developments through expertise
- Ensure IFAP contribution and participation in UNFCCC meetings requiring technical expertise

- Consolidating an IFAP policy position through
- An IFAP declaration on the Bali Road Map to be adopted (May27)
- IFAP Specific positions in response to UNFCCC calls for submission on climate related topics of relevance

Climate change and Farming First
- An adopted joint declaration
Showcasing farmers’ solutions & the positive role of agriculture on climate change mitigation and adaptation

- Collecting and publishing case studies on specific actions
- Organising IFAP World Climate Conference (Copenhagen, May)

Raising awareness and knowledge building of farmers on climate change and agriculture through

- IFAP regional policy workshops on Climate change
  - Nairobi (April 09), Damascus (April 09), Bogotá (April), Nepal (September)
- Improve knowledge and provide a briefing on climate change impacts on agriculture and a briefing on the international process (IFAP-WMO joint issue brief)
- Improve knowledge and provide a briefing on climate change and the international process (IFAP issue brief).
Building strategic partnerships & alliances

- MOU with WMO
- Coordinating and exchanging with FAO, WB, GFAR, OECD
- Global Donor Platform
- Farming First coalition (private sector, researchers and farmers)
IFAP Lobby Strategy

In preparation to the Copenhagen Agreement

- Official “Farmers Constituency Group” in UNFCCC
- Active participation in UNFCCC negotiations events and other related events e.g. WMO events, FAO, OECD, WB, etc.
- Strengthening links with selected individual country negotiators and block countries
- Organising side events during UNFCCC meetings e.g. Agricultural Day- December 12.
- Building informal agricultural coalitions with partner organisations e.g Farming First and Global Donor Platform.
Where does agriculture stand in the lead up to Copenhagen?

In general « a positive mood on agriculture »

Positive general tone of discussions on agriculture

Progress and opportunities: finding « the right hooks » for agriculture in the new agreement

- Creation of an informal contact group of parties on Ag.
- Agriculture is likely to be part of the Copenhagen Agreement
- Inclusion of an agriculture program of work in SBSTA. Parties need to agree on timeline for proposal submission and on details later.
- Creation of a global alliance on agricultural Mitigation research (proposed by New Zealand)
Remaining challenges for farmers & agriculture

AWG- KP

LUCUCF and agriculture:

- No discussion on including agriculture in LULUCF except croplands and grasslands
- Gaps in data reporting (G77+China)
- No decision on mandatory versus voluntary accounting rules on land based emission reductions
- Natural disturbances to be included in the new agreement (Canada and Australia)
- Need to reform current CDM to include carbon from soil to be included.
Remaining challenges for farmers & agriculture

AWG- LCA

**SHARED vision**

- Increasing global **food production** while adapting to climate change.

- Need to **link up** agriculture, food security livelihoods and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

- A fair mention of **food security** needed with ref. to art. 2 of the Convention. Not to specific a mention on agriculture.
MITIGATION and sectoral approaches

- Agriculture back in non paper 2
- New draft text proposed by the informal group on agriculture to the Chair on sectoral approaches
- New draft text to be discussed in Barcelona

ADAPTATION

- Absence of direct mention of agriculture
- Many think that not strategic to crow text with sectoral references
- But room for agriculture in current text to benefit from adaptation support.
Remaining challenges for farmers & agriculture

FINANCE

- No specific mention to financing activities related to agriculture.
- Need further mention on:
  - Pro-poor financing to be used for agricultural activities.
  - Initiatives on adaptation and mitigation to work in concert rather than in separate streams.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER & CAPACITY BUILDING

- IPR remains the main sticking point. Developing countries ask for free access to adaptation-related technologies.
Thank you for your attention!

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