Transforming Food Systems with a Farmers Driven Climate Agenda

THE CLIMAKERS

“As farmers we live very close to nature, closer than anyone else in the world. We are the ones that work under the sun or the rain and wind. We are the ones whose production processes are most threatened by fires and by disasters. Hence, for centuries, farmers have been involved in mitigating and adapting to climate phenomena.”

Theo De Jager, President, World Farmers’ Organisation

The latest IPCC report on Climate Change and Land states that Agriculture is responsible for 23% of Greenhouse Gases Emission, however this data does not take into consideration the carbon sequestration contribution of the farming sector.

The ongoing debate about food systems does not consider the whole picture, forgetting to consider, for instance, the effort farmers are putting in maintaining high the soil quality in their daily job, not to mention the potential that farmers have to prevent disasters, only by working the land.

With the Climakers initiative, Farmers worldwide, with the support of the other actors in the food value chain, the civil society, the international organizations, academia and the media, have made the proactive decision to establish a Farmers’ Driven Climate Change Agenda to present the actions they are implementing already to mitigate and adapt to the climate change, by replying to the following two questions:

1. What actions are you putting in place to mitigate and adapt to the Climate Change?
2. What do you need to improve your capacity to mitigate and adapt to the Climate Change?

This event brings together farmers, researchers and the members of the Climakers Alliance to present the findings of the Climakers campaign after one year from its launch at COP24, in Katowice.
11.30 – 11.40 – Scene setting
Theo De Jager, President, WFO

11.40 – 11.55 – Presentation of the main findings of the first 12 months of the Climakers
Arianna Giuliodori, Secretary General, WFO and Bruce Campbell, Program Director, CCAFS

11.55 – 12.30 – Experiences from the Climakers Alliance
The Regional Workshops
- The Caribbean Region
  Errington Thomson, President, Agriculture Alliance of the Caribbean (AACARI) and Alex L. J. Shyy, Deputy Secretary General, TaiwanICDF
- The European Region
  Jannes Maes, President, European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA) and Anne Arhnung, CEO, Danish Agricultural Council

The Fertilizer Business Perspective: Best Management Practices on the Farm
Bernhard Stormyr, Head of Sustainability Management, YARA on behalf of the International Fertilizer Association (IFA)

The Perspective of Civil Society
Nala Mueller, Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN)

12.30 – 12.40 – The role of farmers in the of food systems and the future of the Climakers
Theo De Jager, President, WFO and Martien Van Nieuwkoop, Global Director, Agriculture and Food, World Bank

12.40 – 12.50 – Questions and Answers
Moderator: Ceris Jones, Facilitator, WFO Working Group on Climate Change

The Climakers are the members of the Farmers Driven Climate Change Alliance, namely the farmers of the world, who are leading this initiative and other stakeholders – including private sector, civil society, research centres, multilateral organizations – that are committed to provide bottom-up, pragmatic and successful solutions to climate change.