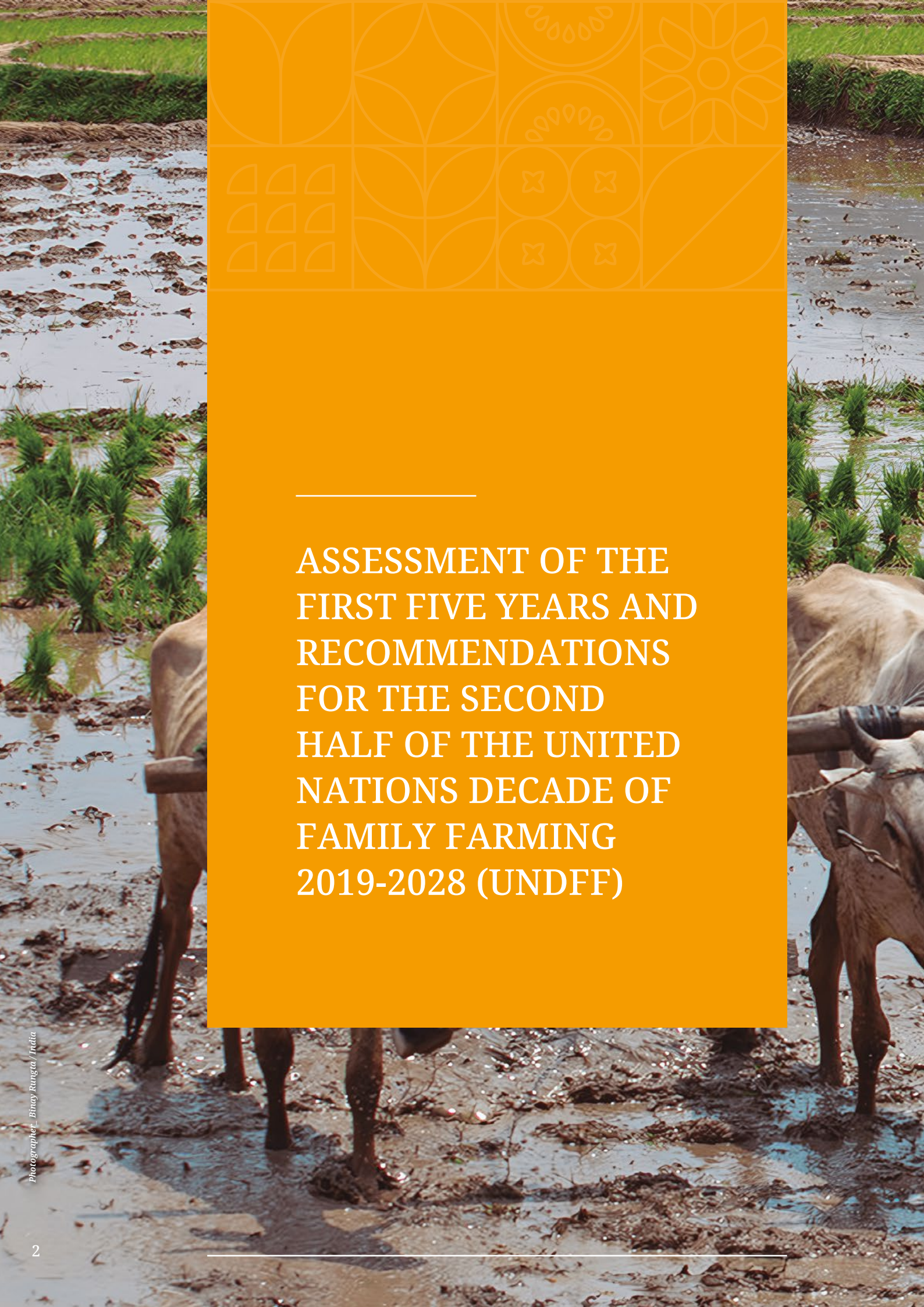


# UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF FAMILY FARMING 2019-2028 (UNDFE) - MILESTONES AND PERSPECTIVES

*Family Farmers' Review of  
the First 5 Years and the Path  
Towards Sustainable and  
Resilient Food Systems*



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**ASSESSMENT OF THE  
FIRST FIVE YEARS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE SECOND  
HALF OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS DECADE OF  
FAMILY FARMING  
2019-2028 (UNDFP)**



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This document underscores the significance of the UNDIFF as a unique tool for supporting family farmers and their vital role in enhancing the sustainability and resilience of food systems. Elaborated by the World Rural Forum (WRF) through a participatory process, it provides an overview of the first five years of UNDIFF implementation in collaboration with various family farming organizations from five continents (**AFA, PDRR, COPROFAM, PROPAC, ROPPA, PIFON**). These organizations are deeply involved in promoting and implementing the Decade.

The conclusions of the VIII Global Conference of the WRF, held in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, in March 2024 are also included in this document.

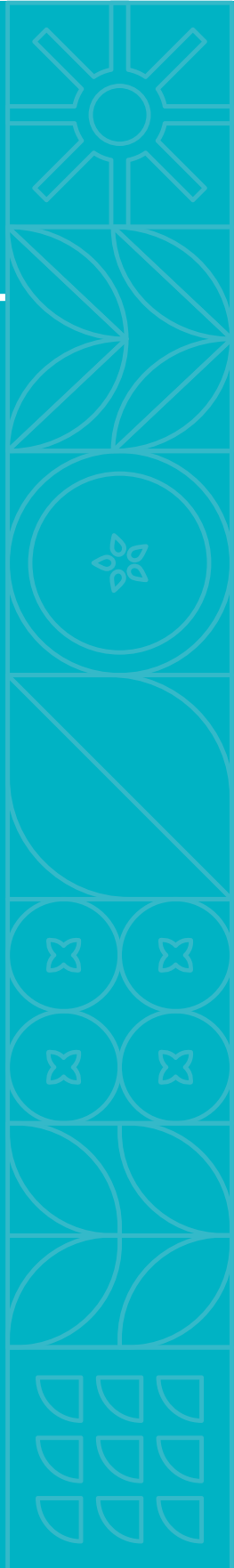


# HALFWAY:

## *Achievements of the United Nation Decade of Family Farming 2029-2028 (UNDF)*

### ACHIEVEMENTS

During these five years of UNDF implementation, significant progress has been achieved for family farmers and the organizations representing them. Family farmers' organizations and their members have gained broader recognition as key agents in the transformation towards sustainable and resilient food systems. This progress has increased their visibility and established their importance across various political and social platforms, where they have been prominently featured in major global discussions on food systems transformation, the climate crisis, and addressing inequalities.



# ACHIEVEMENTS



## STRENGTHENING OF LEADERSHIP AND POLICY DIALOGUE:

Family farmers' organizations have strengthened their voice and leadership in various regional and national policy dialogue forums, including SICA-CAC, REAF Mercosur, SAARC, ASEAN, ECCAS, and the National Committees of Family Farming. This dialogue has facilitated the creation of new mechanisms for support and commitment to family farming.

### SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES

#### REGION: SAARC

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Multistakeholder dialogue to put the UNDFE on the regional political agenda.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** UNDFE [Action Plan](#) for the SAARC Region elaborated through a multistakeholder process led by AFA, SAARC Agri Center, FAO and the International Cooperative Alliance-Asia Pacific.

#### COUNTRY: PANAMA

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Establishing a platform for institutionalized national dialogue between public authorities and family farming organizations.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** The Family Farming [Law 127-2020](#) recognizes the National Committee of Family Farming (CONADAF in Spanish) as the national platform for the participation and integration of family farmers, as well as a consultative body for public policies related to family farming.



## BOOSTING PUBLIC POLICIES:

The efforts of these organizations have led to the formulation of regional and national UNDFE action plans and many other public policies in areas such as agroecology, market access, public procurement, and the empowerment of rural youth and women.

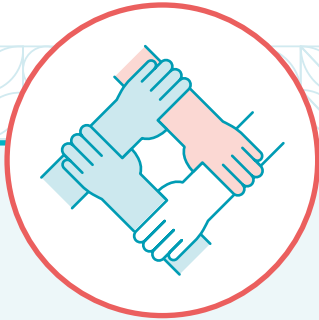
### SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES

#### REGION: REAF MERCOSUR

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Create opportunities to promote public policies within the framework of the UNDFE.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** Approval of MERCOSUR/CMC [Recommendation](#) No. 01/23 by the Common Market Group, which advises promoting the UNDFE within Member States and developing National Action Plans (NAPs) for the UNDFE in alignment with the SDGs. NAPs have been developed in Argentina and Uruguay, and are currently being drafted in Chile, Paraguay, and Brazil.

#### COUNTRY: TOGO

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Policy frameworks that recognize the role of family farming in the economy, food security, and the preservation of resources and biodiversity.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** The National Committee of Family Farming of Togo (PNAFAT), which includes over 34 members such as farmer organizations, NGOs, research centers, and other stakeholders, is playing a significant role in both the development and implementation of Togo's [National Strategy](#) for the Advancement of Agroecology and Organic Farming 2021-2030.



## NEW AGREEMENTS AND ALLIANCES:

The UNDF has facilitated new agreements and cooperation projects with international organizations such as FAO, IFAD, IICA and the EU. These agreements have enabled the implementation of supportive actions, the promotion of policy dialogue, and the provision of technical assistance in the development of these policies and plans.

## SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES

### REGION: PACIFIC ISLANDS

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Access to direct climate finance for family farmers in the Pacific Islands.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** PIFON launched the [Climate Resilient Farming](#) (CRF) Framework in March 2023 to help Pacific farmers adapt to climate change and natural disasters. Key donors supporting this initiative include the Australian Government, European Union, IFAD, FAO, and Forest and Farm Facility.

### COUNTRY: BRAZIL

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Creation of new opportunities and partnerships to develop projects to strengthen family farmers.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** Development of [technical cooperation](#) projects by the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and IFAD in collaboration with state governments in the Northeast region (Semi-Arid), focusing on productive and commercial development, infrastructure, and other services for family farming.



## CAPACITY BUILDING AND PARTICIPATION:

The training processes for family farmers' organizations on policies have been strengthened, as well as exchanges and participation in relevant forums at the national, regional and global levels, such as CFS, UNFSS, UNCCC, WFF and Agenda 2030.

## SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES

### GLOBAL: WOMEN

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Strengthen the capacities of women farmers to participate in the development of public policies in support of family farming with a gender approach.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** Learning Framework on Inclusive, Integrated and Innovative Public Policy Cycles for Family Farming designed by FAO-IFAD. This [learning framework](#) was adapted and implemented by the WRF together with FAO targeting 87 women farmer leaders from the 5 continents in Brazil (August 2023).

### GLOBAL: YOUTH

- ▶ **OBJECTIVE:** Enhance the participation of young farmer leaders in strategic dialogue platforms.
- ▶ **RESULTS:** Increased recognition of the key role of young farmers in food systems transformation through the organization of Young Farmers Roundtables (WFF 2021, 2023 and 2024). Creation of the Family Farming [Youth Core Group](#) to contribute to the implementation of Pillar 2 of the UNDF.



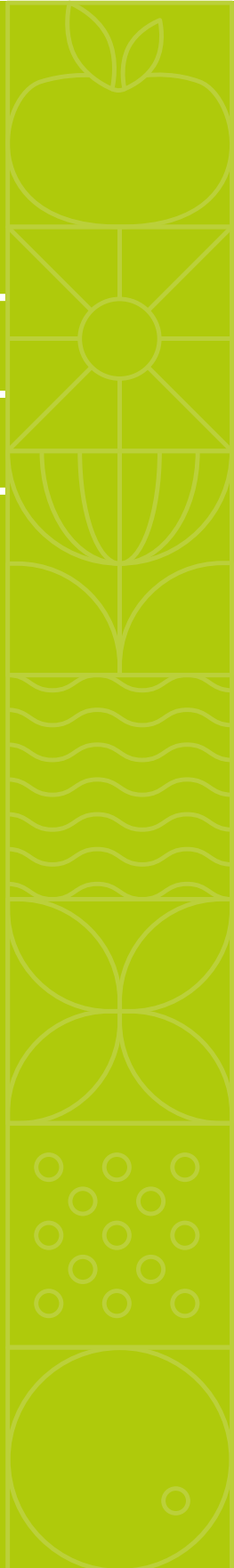


# HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF FAMILY FARMING:

*Second half of the United  
Nations Decade of Family  
Farming 2019-2028 (UNDF)*

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCALE UP THE UNDF IMPLEMENTATION

Despite the significant progress made in the first five years of the UNDF, family farming continues to face enduring challenges that demand coordinated and intensified efforts. Pandemics, economic crises, security issues in rural areas of certain regions, emerging conflicts, and climate change have severely impacted family farmers. Moreover, political setbacks in some countries have hindered dialogue and participation, particularly affecting women and youth. To maximize the impact of the next five years of the UNDF and empower family farmers, it is essential to implement key recommendations that strengthen their role in building sustainable and resilient food systems.

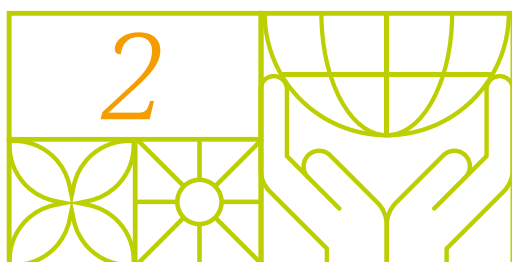


# RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCALE UP THE UNDIFF IMPLEMENTATION



## SCALING UP THE UNDIFF AND ENHANCING ITS GLOBAL IMPACT

Broaden and scale up the impact of the UNDIFF in territories around the world, implementing effective policies and securing the necessary resources for family farmers.



## UNITED NATIONS JOINT AGENDA

Define and coordinate a concrete agenda among UN agencies, especially FAO and IFAD, to promote the UNDIFF in various regions, seeking synergies with other agendas, both general and climate-focused.



## PROMOTING AND CONSOLIDATING REGIONAL AND NATIONAL PLANS AND RESOLUTIONS

Promote the creation, consolidation and adequate financing of UNDIFF action plans and policies at the regional and national levels.



## FOCUS ON WOMEN FARMERS AND YOUNG FARMERS

Ensure the inclusion of women and youth in decision-making processes, addressing their specific challenges and guaranteeing the generational sustainability of family farms.



## ESTABLISHMENT OF STABLE FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

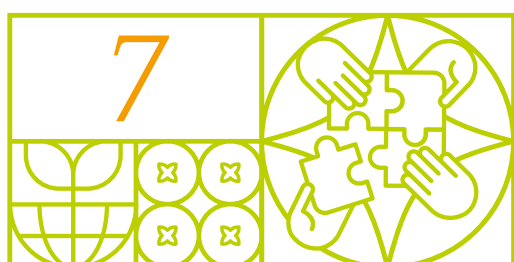
Create stable global financial mechanisms to support and stimulate UNDIFF national and regional processes in support of family farming.

**By implementing these recommendations, family farming is intended to be strengthened and consolidated as a vital component for the sustainability and resilience of global food systems.**



### PERMANENT DIALOGUE FORUMS

Maintain and promote opportunities for regional and national dialogue that include family farmers' organizations, governments and other relevant institutions, such as the [National Committees of Family Farming](#) and the national sections of the REAF MERCOSUR.



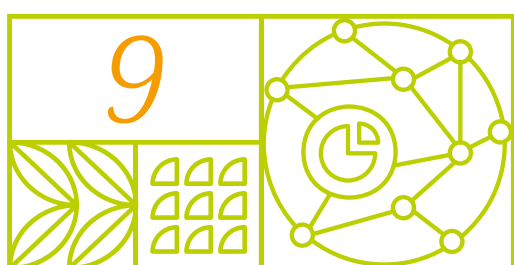
### STRENGTHENING THE PARTICIPATION OF FAMILY FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Strengthen the participation of family farmers' organizations in the setting of strategic agendas, political dialogues and the implementation of policies and programs.



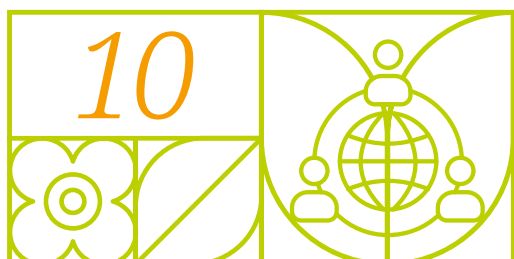
### RAISING AWARENESS AND TRAINING OF LOCAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTORS

Ensure the effective implementation of policies and plans, and improve the understanding of the UNDDF and the importance of family farming in rural development.



### RESEARCH AND DATA GENERATION

Conduct detailed studies and generate data on changes in the family farming sector in various regions in order to make informed decisions and design effective policies.



### IMPROVING SYNERGIES BETWEEN COOPERATION INSTITUTIONS

Improve synergies between FAO, IFAD and other cooperation institutions to mobilize and coordinate ongoing programs that support family farmers.



A vertical photograph on the left side of the page shows several fish, likely tilapia, caught in a yellow mesh fishing net. The fish are visible through the netting, and the background is a clear blue sky.

# FINAL DECLARATION OF THE VIII GLOBAL CONFERENCE OF THE WRF (MARCH 2024)

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## 10 KEY PRIORITY TOPICS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE UNDF

More than 200 agents gathered at the VIII Global Conference of the WRF "[Family Farming: Sustainability of our Planet](#)". Through the final declaration, "[Sowing sustainability: Scaling Up the Vital Contribution of Family Farming](#)" the participants ratified the UNDF 2019-2028 as an international consensus tool to address current challenges.

# THE DECLARATION CALLS FOR THESE 10 ACTIONS:

Scale up the vital role of Family Farming towards sustainable, inclusive and resilient FOOD SYSTEMS.

1



Strengthen NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF FAMILY FARMING as multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms.

3



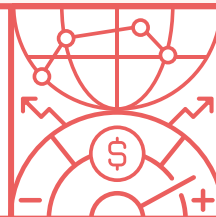
Ensure the ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY of Family Farming.

4



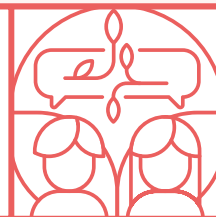
Promote comprehensive POLICIES that recognize the MULTIDIMENSIONALITY OF FAMILY FARMING and its link to crucial agendas such as food, nutrition, health, land, biodiversity, climate, poverty and inequality.

2



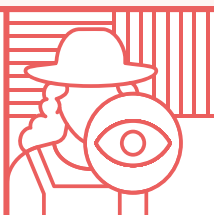
Support LEADERSHIP OF RURAL YOUTH. Support to the Family Farming Youth Core Group (FF YCG) and declaration of an International Day of Young Farmers.

5



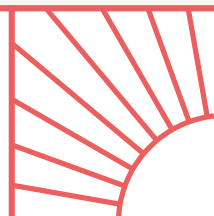
Reduce gender inequalities in rural areas and empower RURAL WOMEN.

6



Recognize the catalytic role of family farmers in CLIMATE ACTION.

7



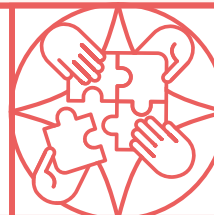
Ensure LAND TENURE security of family farmers specially for women and youth.

8



Boost PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH and co-innovation in Family Farming.

9



Intensify NETWORKING among diverse actors.

10



# UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF FAMILY FARMING 2019-2028 (UNDFE) - MILESTONES AND PERSPECTIVES

*Family Farmers' Review of the First 5  
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#### **About the UNDFE:**

- UNDFE Website
- WRF Website on UNDFE
- Official first report of Implementation of the UNDFE 2019-2028 (July 2021)
- Official second report of Implementation of the UNDFE 2019-2028 (July 2023)

#### **About the World Rural Forum:**

- World Rural Forum Website
- VIII Global Conference. "Family Farming: Sustainability of our Planet"

#### **About Family Farming:**

- Family Farming Knowledge Platform
- FAO's work on Family Farming

This document was created as part of the European Union-funded project "Strengthening the Agency of CSOs in Developing Policy Frameworks for Equitable Rural Development and an Enhanced Contribution of Family Farmers towards the Achievement of the SDGs," led by the World Rural Forum alongside co-partners AFA, AsiaDHRRA, COPROFAM, Inades-Formation, PIFON, and PROPAC.

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