

Conference Room 5
UN Headquarters
New York



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Farmers and Indigenous Peoples joining hands to boost the achievement of SDG 13 and its link to SDG 2

Organized by the World Farmers' Organisation and the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for the SDGs

Background

According to the latest trends, hunger is on the rise again with an increase in the absolute number of undernourished people that reached 821 million in 2017, bringing back levels of almost a decade ago. Besides conflicts and violence, the factor that affects food insecurity the most is climate change, with its disastrous effects on agriculture and natural resources, especially in those areas that are more vulnerable to poverty.

Climate change, agriculture and food security are highly interrelated and food production is very sensitive to climate change. In fact, climate change affects all four dimensions of food security namely availability, accessibility, utilization and stability. Therefore, building resilience to its negative effects is key to achieving food security and nutrition, as well as to reaching social stability and economic development.

Food producers, including family farmers, indigenous peoples, pastoralists, fisher folks are the first nutrient providers and are directly affected by the severe weather events caused by climate change. Nevertheless, small-scale producers supply 80% of the food produced in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. Farmers, as well as indigenous peoples, are at the frontline of climate change whose effects are a serious threat to their daily activities and consequently to their livelihoods. Furthermore, natural disasters overlap climate change and affect the environment in different ways. However, both farmers and indigenous people still produce, try to cope with such events, adopting adaptation strategies related for example to soil and land management, water management, forests conservation, not to mention the crucial contribution of traditional knowledge and people – led innovation in the preservation of biodiversity and natural resources. Rural people, including indigenous people, must have equal access to land, conservation of the land, resources, markets, as well as respect for their traditional knowledge and cultural heritage.

This side event is 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 people are joining 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.



Speakers

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