



## **DECLARATION FROM THE FAMILY FARMING ORGANIZATIONS AND CSOs DURING THE VI GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON FAMILY FARMING**

We, the Farmers Organizations and other CSOs gathered in the VI Global Conference on Family Farming affirm that:

Family Farming (FF)<sup>1</sup> produces over 80 percent<sup>2</sup> of the world's food in value terms globally, playing a vital role not only in sustainable food production, but also in rural employment and income generation, and in environmental management of rural and marine areas and their biodiversity. It is also the source of significant cultural elements for each community, and ultimately, a fundamental pillar of countries' overall development, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

When an appropriate enabling environment is set up in the countries, with specific public policies implemented in favour of FF, Family Farming can ensure a dignified life for family farmers, including peasants, indigenous communities, fishers and pastoralists and can meet consumers' needs more appropriately and more effectively.

Due to the highly positive results of the International Year of Family Farming (IYFF 2014) worldwide, dozens of family farmers' organizations and other civil society organizations called for the Declaration of the Decade of Family Farming. The process in the UN General Assembly was led by the Government of Costa Rica and supported by a group of 14 countries and international organizations, especially IFAD and FAO. Finally, in December 2017, the United Nations General Assembly, at its 72nd Session, proclaimed the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028<sup>3</sup>, to serve as a framework for countries to develop public policies and investments to support Family Farming, and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by addressing Family Farming from a holistic perspective and including rural poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions.

We are therefore pleased that the Member States of the UN join us in this vision, through their support for this global initiative.

The Decade of Family Farming was our request, our vision, but above all it is our opportunity to, collectively, achieve more and better public policies for Family Farming and defend existing ones; to be a major force behind the implementation of those policies; to make sure Family Farming is understood and recognized for its worth; to put people ahead of major interests; to build a better future in our rural areas, and, also, for our cities.

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<sup>1</sup> Considering its diversity, there is no single definition of Family Farming. [The International Steering Committee for the International Year of Family Farming, celebrated in 2014, developed the following conceptual definition of Family Farming](#) (FAO, 2013): "Family Farming (which includes all family-based agricultural activities) is a means of organizing agricultural, forestry, fisheries, pastoral and aquaculture production which is managed and operated by a family and predominantly reliant on family labour, including both women's and men's. The family and the farm are linked, co-evolve and combine economic, environmental, social and cultural functions".

<sup>2</sup> [The State of Food and Agriculture. FAO, 2014](#)

<sup>3</sup> [UN Resolution adopted by the General Assembly \(A/RES/72/239\)](#)



In this sense, we, the family farmers' organizations and CSOs, meeting in Bilbao, welcomed the holding of the VI Global Conference on Family Farming that has brought together representatives from Farmers' Organizations and other Civil Society organizations, Governments, International Organizations, Research Centres and Cooperatives from across the five continents.

We reaffirm that the improvement of the quality of life and work will depend on cooperation and joint action by the organizations representing Family Farming, the international organisations directly involved in the process (FAO and IFAD) and on governments making a commitment to implement the necessary public policies on Family Farming at national and local levels. The Action Plan for the Decade of Family Farming summons us to work together and advance Peasant Rights, to guarantee access to and control of land, water, genetic resources, territory, and markets, to ensure investment and incentives to produce, to mitigate the effects of climate change, to promote economic autonomy and empowerment of women and eliminate all forms of violence against them, and to encourage young people to remain on the land and ensure generational turnover.

We, the Farmers Organizations and other CSOs gathered in the VI Global Conference on Family Farming, commit ourselves to share the results of the VI Global Conference on Family Farming within our territories and our constituencies, and among our family farmers.

We strongly request Governments, the International Steering Committee of the Decade, its Secretariat and other stakeholders:

1. To take account of the results of our discussions in Bilbao;
2. To include Family Farmers and our organizations in the process of building a strategic agenda of a more horizontal, transparent, inclusive and participative cooperation for the implementation of the Decade at all levels (global, national, and local);
3. To consider that Family Farmers and our organisations must be recognized as fundamental key-partners participating in governance spaces - at global, national and local levels, in order to contribute to the design, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Decade and the national policies and actions adopted in each country;
4. To consider that Family Farmers and our organisations must benefit from all the necessary support, including direct financial and technical, in order to help us to promote sustainable food systems and diets, while making a decent living from our occupation;
5. To recognize the contribution that Family Farmers have been giving through generations, creating, maintaining and preserving ecosystems, and the crucial role we have nowadays in ensuring the survival of the humankind.

Let's continue building the future together!



## SIGNATORY ORGANISATIONS

Actuar-ACD, Portugal	Instituto Centro de Vida - Mato Grosso, Brazil
AFA, Asia	IPAR-Afrique
Africa-Europa Fe & Justicia, Antena España	Laboral Kutxa, Euskadi
Agriculture Research Institute, Tanzania	LORRA Sociedad Cooperativa, Euskadi
Alianza Parlamentaria del Derecho a la Alimentación, España	MUCECH, Chile
ANPROCA, Bolivia	NACCFL Nepal
API, Indonesia	National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania
APRODEPA, Panamá	National Union Of Water Users Associations Of The Kyrgyz Republic
AR Now - People's Campaign for Agrarian Reform Network	NCCF Burkina Fasso
Articulación Campesina, República Dominicana	NCCF Burundi
Association Community Development Institute, Macedonia	NCCF El Salvador
CCDA, Guatemala	NCCF Gambia AIAF+10
CEDEPAS Norte, Peru	NCCF Hungary- K'SLE'PTÉK EGYESNET
Cellule Agriculture Et Elevage Au Cabinet De La Présidence, Niger	NCCF Indonesia
CIPCA, Bolivia	NCCF Macedonia
CNCR Sénégal	NCCF Madagascar
CNFR Uruguay	NCCF Mexico - RMAFCI
CNOP Congo	NCCF Nepal
CNOP Mali	NCCF Nigeria
Comisión Nacional de Fomento Rural, Uruguay	NCCF Slovakia - Rural Platform
CONFRAS, El Salvador	NCCF Tanzania
CONGOPE, Ecuador	NCCFCI Paraguay
Consortio de Gobiernos Provinciales de Ecuador	Observatorio del Derecho a la Alimentación de España
CONVEAGRO, Peru	Pakisama, the Philippines
COPA-COGECA	PANAFCI Côte d'Ivoire / Inades Formation SG



COPROFAM, Mercosur	PDRR-CA y ACAN, Honduras
Corporación OVO12 Sociedad Cooperativa, Euskadi	PDRR-Centroamérica
CSRC, Nepal	PIFON, Pacific
ECTAD Caribbean	PROCASUR Corporación
ENBA, Euskadi	PROPAC, Afrique Centrale
ENDA PRONAT, Sénégal	PSOE- Grupo Parlamentario España
Farmers Organization Network, Ghana	REDCAF, Costa Rica
Farmers Union Network of Liberia	REFACOF Cameroun
FCIMD, Euskadi	RENAF Colombia
FECORAH, Honduras	Réseau SOA, Madagascar
FEDE COOPADES / PDRR El Salvador	ROPFA, Afrique de l'Ouest
Federación de Cooperativas Agroalimentarias de Euskadi	SEWA, India
Federación Agraria Argentina	Small and Family Farming Network Japan - SFFNJ
FICSH, Ecuador	SOS Faim, Belgique
FIFATA, Madagascar	Te Kopu Pacific Indigenous + Local knowledge Centre of Distinction
FJPEL, Canada	The Hunger Project Mexico
FOPABU, Burundi	The National Beekeepers Association of The Gambia
Gobierno de mujeres indígenas mayangnas, Nicaragua	UAGA, Euskadi
Horticultores Familiares de Cuautlalpan, México	Uganda National Farmers Federation
IFOAM Organics International	UNAPA, Nicaragua
ILC Secretariat	Universitat Politècnica de Valencia, España
Inades Formation Burkina Fasso	UPA, España
Inades Formation Burundi	Vietnam Farmers' Union
Inades Formation Togo	World Rural Forum-WRF/FRM
INCUPO, Argentina	Zambia National Forestry Commodities Association