



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)¹ produces over 80 percent² 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 2019-2028³, 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.

¹ 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".

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

³ [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 Gambia AIAF+10
CCDA, Guatemala	NCCF Hungary- K'SLE'PTÉK EGYESNET
CEDEPAS Norte, Peru	NCCF Macedonia
Cellule Agriculture Et Elevage Au Cabinet De La Présidence, Niger	NCCF Madagascar
CIPCA, Bolivia	NCCF Mexico - RMAFCI
CNCR Sénégal	NCCF Nepal
CNFR Uruguay	NCCF Nigeria
CNOP Congo	NCCF Slovakia - Rural Platform
CNOP Mali	NCCF Tanzania
Comisión Nacional de Fomento Rural, Uruguay	NCCFCI Paraguay
CONFRAS, El Salvador	Observatorio del Derecho a la Alimentación de España
CONGOPE, Ecuador	Pakisama, the Philippines
Consortio de Gobiernos Provinciales de Ecuador	PANAFCI Côte d'Ivoire / Inades Formation SG
CONVEAGRO, Peru	PDRR-CA y ACAN, Honduras



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