

CFS side event: Implementing the UN Decade of family farming (UNDF) to face COVID 19 and achieve resilient and sustainable food systems

Mr. Maurizio Martina, Special Adviser to the Director General (FAO), focused his introductory remarks on setting the scene of the ongoing implementation of the UNDF at both global and national levels, as well as on UNDF potential to identify and put into practice concrete actions and policies to support family farmers' contribution to revamp rural economies and to achieve resilient food systems.

The UNDF envisages the creation and implementation of 100 National Action Plans for Family Farming, to guide different stakeholders in implementing the UNDF based on coordinated actions and clearly identified priorities and mechanisms. Successful experiences at the national level, as the one brought by H.E. Renato Alvarado Rivera, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, highlighted the need for a multisectoral approach which takes into account the specific challenges faced by women and youth, to achieve the resilience of food systems and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

In his intervention, Mr. Martin Uriarte, President of the World Rural Forum (WRF), focused on the paramount role of National Committees of Family Farming and other multistakeholder platform for policy dialogue in implementing the UNDF as well as on the importance of a coordinated, participatory multi-stakeholder approach to achieve the UNDF ambitious goals and to revamp rural economies affected by the pandemic.

The contributions that family farmers and the UNDF can give to the ongoing process related to the UNFSS and the mutually reinforcing synergies that could be promoted among the two initiatives and with the implementation of CFS products were also discussed starting from the intervention of Ms. Marylaure Crettaz Corredor, Head of the Global Programme Food Security of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland.

The interventions of Ms. Paula Gioia, International Coordination Committee member (LVC), explored how leveraging on specific CFS products and on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP) is key to secure protection of family farmers' rights and to effectively support the implementation of all the Pillars of the UNDF Global Action Plan.

The importance of focusing the implementation of the UNDF on the country and local level to face long-term challenges exacerbated by the current pandemic was stressed by Mr. Jean-Philippe Audinet, Lead Global Advisor for Rural Institutions (IFAD), in his closing remarks.

Quotes:

"For Costa Rica, the United Nations Decade of Family Farming is an important pillar to face the crisis of COVID-19, promoting the agricultural sector and the importance of rural communities in the eradication of poverty, the resilience of food systems and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. It is a Decade that for us, seeks to recognize the fundamental role of rural women producers and young women in food security and nutrition".

H.E. Renato Alvarado Rivera, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock. Costa Rica

"The UNDF helps in channelling the key emerging priorities, needs, messages, and concrete solutions coming from actors at local and national level to feed the global discussion and the international agenda. This two-way dialogue is paramount to support countries in their efforts to achieve the SDGs."

Mr. Maurizio Martina, ADG / Special Adviser to the Director General– UN Food and Agriculture Organization

“The Decade of Family Farming (UNDF), through the definition of specific and contextualized public policies, can unleash the enormous potential of family farming to achieve the major challenges included in the 2030 Agenda, and to address the impact of the current and future crises. The strengthening of inclusive political dialogue platforms, the strong mobilisation of different actors towards the agreement on National Action Plans on family farming and ambitious international commitments will be key to develop this enormous potential.”

Mr. Martin Uriarte. President. World Rural Forum (WRF).

Relevant links:

UNDF Global action Plan <http://www.fao.org/3/ca4672en/ca4672en.pdf>

Images:



Ms. Marylaure Crettaz Corredor, Head of the Global Programme Food Security of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland.



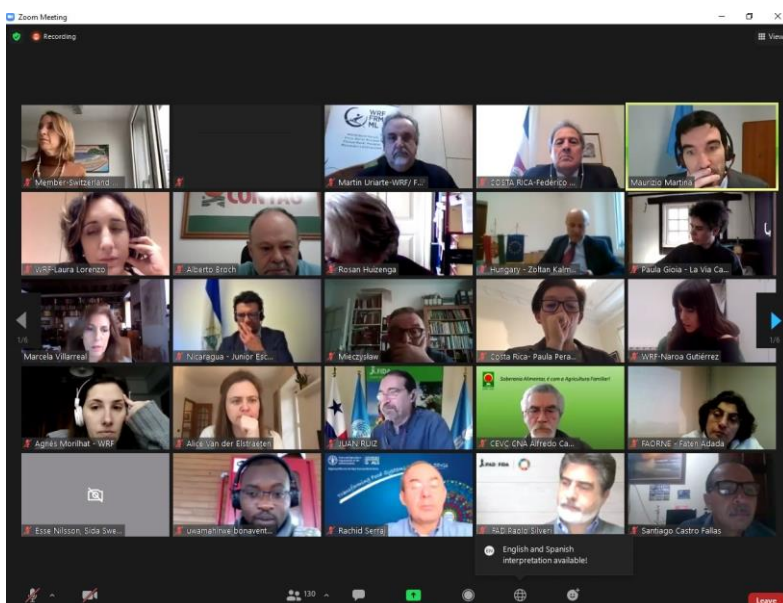
H.E. Renato Alvarado Rivera, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock. Costa Rica



Ms. Paula Gioia, International Coordination Committee member (LVC)



Mr. Maurizio Martina, ADG / Special Adviser to the Director General– UN Food and Agriculture Organization



Some of the participants in the side event