

# FOOD ACTION ACCELERATES CLIMATE ACTION

Empowering Youth for a Better Food Future

#worldfoodforum

## What is the World Food Forum powered by global youth (WFF)?

Launched in 2021, the World Food Forum (WFF) is an independent, youth-led global network of partners facilitated and hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). It aims to spark a global movement that empowers young people everywhere to actively transform agrifood systems to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and a better food future for all.

The WFF serves as the premier global forum to harness the passion and power of youth to identify solutions and incite positive action for agrifood systems. It aligns with the 2021 United Nations (UN) Food Systems Summit, acts as major youth platform in global food governance, and serves as a global think tank that fosters youth-led solutions in innovation, science and technology.

The WFF aims to support and grow youth initiatives in the agrifood sector in line with global youth policy recommendations, focusing in 2023 on the theme, "Food action accelerates climate action."

To drive awareness, foster engagement and advocacy, and mobilize resources, the WFF connects youth groups, influencers, companies, academic institutions, nonprofits, governments, media and the public. It features a range of interactive events, networks and content platforms across the areas of policy, innovation, education and culture. In 2022, the flagship event saw more than 2 000 in-person attendees, over 40 000 online visits and online participants from over 180 countries. It comprised more than 200 sessions and side events spread across three interlinked fora - the WFF Global Youth Forum, the FAO Science and Innovation Forum and the FAO Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum.



Overall, the flagship week fostered invaluable dialogue and debate among relevant stakeholders, including young and youthful participants, farmers, small-scale producers, Indigenous Peoples, policymakers, agri-investors and scientists.

## | Why the WFF?

The agrifood systems that encompass the journey of food from farm to table and beyond touch every aspect of our lives and reach every corner of the planet. Yet instead of harnessing their immense potential for positive impact, we are letting agrifood systems wreak havoc on our climate and environment.

Currently, agrifood systems account for one-third of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions, 90 percent of global deforestation and 70 percent of water use globally, and are the single greatest cause of terrestrial biodiversity loss, putting pressure on food value chains. Food is also the single largest category of material placed in municipal landfills and we lose or waste enough food to feed 1.3 billion hungry people every year.

But it doesn't have to be this way. In fact, transforming agrifood systems can - and must - be a central part of the global climate solution. It can significantly accelerate climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By creating efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems we can mitigate and adapt to climate change, increase biodiversity and restore ecosystems, while also ensuring food security and better nutrition through agrifood systems that enable and sustain healthy diets, and a more equitable future for all.

Over the past two years, our recurring forum has identified powerful ideas, policies and solutions to positively transform our agrifood systems for the benefit of everyone, everywhere. This year we are turning ideas into impact by focusing our efforts on local action.

Climate change is a global challenge that requires comprehensive action across all sectors, including our agrifood systems. There is no one-size-fits-all solution. To drive real, sustainable change, we must respond to local needs and challenges, while supporting and implementing sustainable solutions that we can amplify and scale up.

If we are to truly and meaningfully address climate change, we need to focus on transforming our agrifood systems. And we need to do this together.

## | When is the WFF?

**The WFF flagship event will take place on  
16-20 October 2023**

Beyond the event, the WFF is an ongoing global youth movement to spark awareness, solution-based action, creativity, and out-of-the-box thinking to accelerate agrifood systems change and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This year, we're focusing on food action and climate action.

16-20 OCTOBER 2023



WORLD  
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FORUM



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## | How can I join?

The World Food Forum Needs You!

Youth volunteers, youthful partners, and sponsors are invited to participate and help bring the movement to life. Spread the word about the WFF and engage with us in key solutions for building a better food future for everyone, everywhere.

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To learn more and find out how you can join,  
[coordinator@world-food-forum.org](mailto:coordinator@world-food-forum.org) [www.world-food-forum.org](http://www.world-food-forum.org)

