

## WHAT **FARMERS AND AGRIBUSINESSES** CAN DO TO HELP ACHIEVE #ZEROHUNGER

The women and men who work in agriculture play a vital role in achieving #ZeroHunger. Whether they work on small family farms or in small food enterprises, their decisions will help shape the future of food and nutrition. Their knowledge and traditional practices are vital in a world where food production faces many challenges such as climate change and limited natural resources. These actions are a starting point for farmers and agribusinesses who want to build a #ZeroHunger world.

### **PROMOTE EQUALITY**

Farmers and smallholders should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, indigenous peoples and youth, because Zero Hunger can only succeed in a society that is fair and equal for all.

### **PURSUE RESOURCE-EFFICIENCY**

Farmers should manage natural resources sustainably and efficiently – this will help ensure their future availability, protect the environment, and increase profits by reducing waste.

### **ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Climate change is happening. Adopting a [Climate-Smart Agriculture](#) approach can help farmers face the challenges it poses, by helping them to use natural resources, such as soil and water in a sustainable way, to grow more food. Farmers should use seeds that are more resistant to drought and disease, breed livestock that is suited for warmer temperatures, create stormproof ponds and cages for fish, and plant trees that are heat- and drought-tolerant.

### **DIVERSIFY CROPS**

Growing pressure on the demand for land to grow crops for biofuel production and bio-fortified food will simultaneously increase the demand for agro-biodiversity. This pressure will affect the way in which farming will be carried out in the future. Farmers should diversify their crops as this can help to maintain healthy soils, regulate pests and diseases, improve pollination and decrease the impacts of climate change by decreasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

### **PRODUCE MORE, WITH LESS**

With a growing population expected to reach 9 billion in 2050, farmers should find new, more productive ways to farm food and diversify their crops. Using an integrated farming approach will not only help farmers increase their crops' yield, and thus their profits, but can also improve the quality of their farmland.



## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Farmers and agribusinesses should participate in policy, programme, and monitoring processes at all levels, to contribute their knowledge and expertise, and make their voices heard.

## UNITE AS COOPERATIVES

Vulnerable rural populations need to empower themselves by uniting and forming local cooperatives to ensure that their views and opinions are taken into account, and be in a better position to realise their right to adequate food and decent employment.

## EDUCATE THE FARMERS OF THE FUTURE

By providing the young with the right tools and knowledge, farms and agribusinesses can educate a new generation of farmers, increase their workforce and produce more food to be sold on the market, or shared with others. [FAO's Junior Farmers Field Schools](#) are available to help those starting out.

## CUT POST-HARVEST LOSSES

Post-harvest losses can be significantly reduced or prevented by using adequate storage facilities, keeping up to date with the latest developments in technology and undergoing relevant training.

## LEVERAGE THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY

Modern digital technology and software, such as mobile device apps, can help farmers mitigate and fight the effects of extreme weather events, by allowing them to share information rapidly, access up-to-the-minute data and discover innovative farming solutions.

## ADOPT SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK FARMING PRACTICES

Livestock farming plays a major role in [climate change](#), management of [land and water](#), and [biodiversity](#). Livestock farmers should adopt sustainable farming practices, for instance by improving animals' diets to reduce enteric fermentation and methane emissions, and setting up biogas plant initiatives to recycle manure.

## KEEP FISH POPULATIONS AFLOAT

Fish farmers should fish responsibly, to ensure the effective conservation, management and development of living aquatic resources, with due respect for the ecosystem and biodiversity. Oceans also store a large amount of carbon dioxide in their depths and are home to over half of all life on earth. To prevent illegal unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) countries have adhered to the [Port State Measures Agreement](#) (PSMA), the first-ever binding international agreement specifically targeting IUU fishing.

