FAMILY FARMERS

Feeding the world, caring for the earth

Family farming is inextricably linked to national and global food security. Both in developing and developed countries, family farming is the predominant form of agriculture in the food production sector.

In Brazil, family farmers provide on average approximately 40% of the production of major crops working on less than 25% of the farmland.

Family farmers in Fiji provide 84% of yam, rice, manioc, maize and bean production working on only 47.4% of the farmland.

In the United States, family farmers produce 84% of all produce—totalling USD 238 billion in sales—working on 78% of all farmland.

Family farmers work on a significant portion of the world’s farmland.

More than 3.5 billion people depend on rice for at least 20% of their daily calories.

More than 1 billion people depend on rice production for their livelihoods.

Family farms are the main source of rice production—especially in Asia.

Family farming preserves traditional food products, while contributing to a balanced diet and safeguarding the world’s agro-biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources.

More than 1 billion people depend on rice production for their livelihoods.

Support the development of agricultural, environmental and social policies conducive to sustainable family farming

Increase knowledge, communication and public awareness

Attain better understanding of family farming needs, potential and constraints and ensure technical support

Create synergies for sustainability

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Family farming includes all family-based agricultural activities, and it is linked to several areas of rural development.

Family farmers manage their lands to sustain remarkably high levels of productivity despite having less access to productive resources such as agricultural inputs and support.

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