



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Banana Forum

Working together  
for sustainable  
banana production  
and trade

## Need for **Urgent Action**

**Bananas** are the world's most exported fresh fruit (US\$10bn/year). They are an essential source of income for thousands of rural households in developing countries. However, agrochemical-intensive production along with declining producer prices has given rise to many environmental and social challenges. These can only be properly addressed if all the stakeholders actively collaborate.

## Inspiring collaboration

The **World Banana Forum (WBF)** is a space where main stakeholders of the global banana supply-chain work together to achieve industry-wide consensus on best practices for sustainable production and trade. We believe **collaboration** is the key for change.

The WBF brings together **retailers, importers, producers, exporters, consumer associations, governments, research institutions, trade unions, and civil society organizations** to find pragmatic solutions for the betterment of the industry.

## ✔ Benefits of joining

- ▶ **Promote** the adoption of sustainable business practices aligned to **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** strategies.
- ▶ Forge **partnerships** and connect with a specialized **international network** of the banana sector, supported by FAO.
- ▶ **Increase exposure** for your organization.
- ▶ **Engage** in global international **policy development** and standard setting processes with multiple stakeholders.
- ▶ **Dialogue** with **governments** and promote the development of national frameworks.
- ▶ Attend WBF meetings and **participate** in its main **strategic decisions**.
- ▶ **Become a member** of the Steering Committee or a coordinator of a Working Group.



## How to join

If you belong to the banana sector or have activities directly related to it, submit your request to join the WBF to **wbf@fao.org**. Applications will be reviewed by the Steering Committee (SC).

## What we do

The WBF has three main Working Groups (WG) which address the most urgent sustainability challenges:

- 1 WG01 | Sustainable Production Systems and Environmental Impact** (environmental sustainability)  
Promotes the sustainable management of natural resources, mitigation of environmental impacts and adaptation to climate change.
- 2 WG02 | Distribution of Value** (economic sustainability)  
Seeks to work towards a fair distribution of value along the banana supply chain.
- 3 WG03 | Labour Rights** (social sustainability)  
Promotes the respect for human rights: labour rights, occupational health and safety at work, gender equity and decent work.

## Achievements

The WBF's Working Groups carry out pilot projects to identify and analyze best practices, produce recommendations and guidance documents.

- ▶ A virtual library on best practices for sustainable production.
- ▶ Indicators for decent wages at country level in the main banana exporting countries.
- ▶ Public-policy advocacy and capacity building strategies on occupational health and safety aspects.
- ▶ Support global programs on banana diseases including Fusarium wilt Tropical Race 4.
- ▶ Country and regional reports on key issues for the banana industry.



**Take an active role  
towards a sustainable  
banana sector!**

**Secretariat of the World Banana Forum**

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