



## FIFTH KORONIVIA DIALOGUE

Post-dialogue reflections 5-8 November 2021 | online

### Context

The **Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA)** (4/CP.23) is a landmark decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at its 23rd session. The decision acknowledges the significance of the agriculture sectors in adapting to and mitigating climate change and officially recognizes the role of agriculture and food security in the climate change agenda. Furthermore, the decision requests the two UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and for Implementation (SBI) to work together and move discussions on agriculture under the UNFCCC forward by putting more focus on implementation aspects. The Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) will report back to the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of Parties (COP26) on the progress and outcomes of the KJWA. This request for collaboration recognizes that, in order to achieve greater results, it is necessary to combine scientific and technical knowledge with exchanges on how to facilitate implementation. Despite changes to the **roadmap** due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) remains committed to supporting the development and implementation of the KJWA.

FAO supports countries by providing technical support to adapt to and mitigate climate change through webinars, workshops and knowledge products allowing agriculture experts under the UNFCCC to prepare their submissions and informally share their views on how to develop and implement

### Objectives

Facilitated by FAO, the Koronivia Dialogue aimed to:

- provide a productive and neutral forum for open discussion among agriculture experts towards the implementation of the KJWA; and
- prepare for the upcoming COP 26 to be held from 1-12 November 2021 in Glasgow where the SBs will report back on the outcomes of the KJWA.

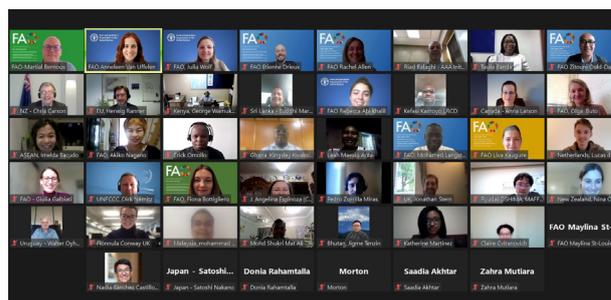


Figure 1. Participants at the fifth Koronivia Dialogue

the decision. These activities are supported by the financial contributions of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) of Germany (project n°GCP/GLO/998/ GER), and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan (project n°GCPT/GLO/398/JPN).

As part of this process, FAO organized the fifth informal ‘Koronivia Dialogue’. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic and related travel restrictions, this fifth Koronivia Dialogue was held virtually and structured in three two-hour sessions between 5 and 8 October 2021. Agriculture and climate experts had the possibility to informally exchange ideas on how to further promote the implementation of the KJWA and share views to jointly define concrete actions before the last KJWA intersessional workshop (part b) and COP26. Overall, the sessions were attended by 63 agriculture experts from Europe, Asia and the Pacific, Africa, America, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

# Key outcomes

In his opening remarks, Zitouni Ould Dada, Deputy Director of FAO's Office of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity (OCB) acknowledged the significance of the KJWA. He underlined the importance of addressing climate change from an agricultural and food security perspective, taking into consideration the additional challenges posed by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and stressed the importance of fruitful discussions especially in the lead-up to COP26. Martial Bernoux (FAO) presented the agenda for the fifth Koronivia Dialogue (FAO) giving an overview of the timeline, process and objectives for this last Dialogue. Dirk Nemitz (UNFCCC) informed participants about remaining activities in the KJWA roadmap and modalities surrounding the upcoming COP26 in Glasgow.

Throughout the sessions, agricultural experts raised the following points:

- Experts shared their views and stressed the importance of finding common and accepted definitions of key sectors such as agriculture, livestock, land use, etc. to ensure standardization for all actors and institutions involved, better tracking of finance flows and more transparency regarding climate finance in the agriculture sector.
- Experts mentioned the need to have a system estimating the proportions of funds allocated to different sectors (agriculture, livestock, crops, etc.). This system would also provide more detailed information on the main funders and contributors (multilateral funds, financial mechanisms under the Convention, private sector, etc.), the criteria used to allocate specific funds for each sector as well as information on flows directed to climate mitigation and/or adaptation. Furthermore, it was generally accepted that there is strong need to build a consensus on the road to COP26 in order to take full advantage of the opportunity offered by the upcoming COP for agriculture.
- The KJWA process has produced a wealth of information and provided a key opportunity for Parties to exchange, but much work remains to be done. The links between agriculture and climate offer a lot of potential but a meaningful and strong conclusion is an important outcome sought at COP26.
- Following comprehensive regional updates and key facts from several groups, capacity building and availability of data were cited as essential factors to provide guidance, especially for the development of long-term strategies that will be presented at COP26 highlighting emission peaks as well as adaptation and mitigation objectives regarding Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- Experts mentioned the importance of conveying a strong positive signal beyond the Koronivia

community that countries can build momentum together to identify next steps needed to effectively recognize agriculture at an international level, and also mobilize finance. As such, they discussed the need for systemic change and transformative actions and declarations of intent on country targets, including the reduction of fertilizer use, pesticides, and reform of agricultural policies.

- Experts mostly agreed on the recognition of the work done by the KJWA community while stressing the importance of identifying concrete next steps. More information was requested on the matter of financial institutions.
- Several delegates underlined that key priorities should be extracted from the submissions, discussions and reports although this would be difficult given the short time available before COP26.
- The overarching question of implementation was largely discussed by experts who view it as a central topic of discussion that must be answered concretely before the eventual closure of KJWA process.
- In the final day, experts thoroughly discussed institutional modalities and technical priorities, asserting the need to make financial support in agriculture a top priority. In this regard, the interlinkages between adaptation, mitigation and tools needed to support countries to get agriculture into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and main national plans were also discussed with a proposal to identify a mechanism that could attract/ leverage financial resources and actions that will clearly set priorities (tracking and defining resource allocations, timeline, and functions.)



Figure 2. Word cloud  
Based on key words mentioned throughout the Dialogue



## Way Forward

This fifth Koronivia Dialogue was a further opportunity for Parties to informally exchange views on the process, for which Parties have shown their appreciation. The discussions were fruitful and animated, particularly on the potential outcomes for Koronivia. These discussions should feed into reporting at COP26 and pave the way for the future of agriculture under the UNFCCC.

Discussions revealed some areas of agreement which could be a starting point for negotiators. The main point of agreement among Parties was the need to identify and extract technical priorities from the exchanges that have taken place throughout the process. This could inform both the way climate finance is allocated and the way agriculture is addressed under UNFCCC with new institutional arrangements. Most Parties also agree on the need to maintain a structure for discussion of issues related to agriculture, whether it is through a specific programme, an extension of KJWA, or under an existing mechanism

The next step for KJWA negotiators would be to ensure that issues related to agriculture are still discussed under the Convention, and that key priorities for implementation on the ground are determined as soon as possible to bring meaningful change.

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