



## SAGA at COP26

COP 26 reminded us of the pressing need to move towards productive and resilient agri-food systems, using natural resources in a sustainable manner, to ensure food security and nutrition, especially in the context of a climate emergency. Multi-stakeholder, multi-sector, multi-scale, the Strengthening Agricultural Adaptation (SAGA) global project is a pilot project for the application of these principles from a holistic perspective in Senegal and Haiti. It promotes the valorization of ecosystem biodiversity and traditional resources for adaptation planning. It recognizes the key role of women and their knowledge, as well as the role that youth have and will have to play. Most importantly, it is rooted in institutions and their national and international commitments; in research and scientific evidence; and in territories and communities.

The SAGA project aims also to capitalize on existing climate change coordination mechanisms to facilitate advocacy on adaptation for agricultural sectors and knowledge sharing. COP26 provided opportunities for producer and civil society organizations, universities/research centers, and policy makers, who are project partners in Senegal and Haiti, to contribute to international discussions on climate change, food security and nutrition. This report presents highlights of the three side events organized by the SAGA project and its partners during COP26.



WATCH THE RECORDING

### Transforming agriculture and food systems through inclusion, resilience and low-carbon action

EU Pavilion – 8 Nov 2021

In partnership with the governments of Senegal, Quebec (Canada), Bahia (Brazil), the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS) and Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD).

#### MODERATOR

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- Ms **Manal Bidar**, Communications Lead of YOUNGO, Coordinator of Inclusivity and Accessibility at the COY 16 and Ambassador of the African Youth Climate Hub.

#### SPEAKERS

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- Mr **Eduardo Mansur**, Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), FAO
- Ms **Louise Mabulo**, Founder of The Cacao Project, Philippines
- Mr **Lamine Diatta**, Program Officer, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Climate Change Division Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal.
- Ms **Leticia Baird**, Brazilian public prosecutor of the state of Bahia and Sustainable School Program Manager
- Mr **Ahmed Sourani**, Co-Founder & General Coordinator of the Gaza Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Platform (GUPAP)

#### EVENT SUMMARY

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This side event provided a space for dialogue on inclusive, resilient and low-carbon practices and policies to transform agri-food systems. The discussion also focused on ways to intensify the right investments and policy support required to help scale up such actions. The event brought representatives of groups in vulnerable situations from different sectors together to share their success stories on building sustainable climate resilience while ensuring food security and livelihoods, highlighting the key role of vulnerable groups as leaders and agents of change in agriculture and food systems. This side event also presented different approaches, platforms, and international discussions such as the Marrakesh Partnership, Food Systems Summit Resilience Track, the World Food Forum and the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.

## KEY SHOWCASED ACTIONS

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- When given equal chances, women and girls are critical agents of change towards inclusive, resilient, and low-carbon agri-food systems, as showcased in the Gaza Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Platform and in the FAO global project - Strengthening Agricultural Adaptation (SAGA).
- Youth leadership and ideas can lead to exceptional results and change at regional level. The Cacao project in the Philippines demonstrated the importance of training and necessary resources for diversification in food generation and production to better promote environment friendly and disaster resilient livelihoods.
- Urban farming in Gaza can be a key component of food security while generating job/income opportunities, especially for women.
- School feeding programs in Brazil can contribute to achieving complementary goals: improve the diets of children, reduce the carbon footprint of menus, empower small farmers, and develop agroecology.
- Government engagement can help create inclusive enabling environments for local initiatives and nation-wide inclusive, resilient and low-carbon movements to emerge, as shown by the example of the Dynamic for an Agroecological Transition (DyTAES) in Senegal.
- Innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships, leveraging synergies between governments, civil society, research/academia and the private sector can help break silos between agriculture, environment, and nutrition, and scale up climate action to ensure food security and nutrition, as shown by the FAO SAGA project.

## KEY TAKEAWAY MESSAGES

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- Inclusive, resilient and low-carbon approaches are needed and should be targeted towards groups in vulnerable situations such as women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and small-scale farmers, to successfully reach our climate and food security targets.
- More inclusive action and moving towards the transformation of agriculture and food systems requires multi-stakeholder collaboration. Building synergies is an important focus going forward.
- Effective transformative climate action is needed at all levels and requires good alignment between local initiatives and national policies.
- Capacity building of stakeholders at all levels is essential to improve the understanding of cross-cutting issues such as climate change, food insecurity and malnutrition and poverty alleviation, and how to manage them in an inclusive low-carbon way.
- Specific funding mechanisms at the international level are needed to enable governments to empower women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and small-scale farmers and their communities in the face of climate change.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

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- SAGA project
- Strengthening School Feeding Programs
- YPARD
- Gaza Urban & Peri-urban Agriculture Platform
- The Cacao project
- IAAS



WATCH THE RECORDING

## Voices from the field: Participatory approaches of Climate-Smart Agriculture, Farmer Field Schools and Indigenous Chakra systems

UK Presidency Pavilion – 10 Nov 2021

In partnership with the governments of Senegal, Quebec (Canada), Italy, Zambia and Germany.

## MODERATOR

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Ms **Liva Kaugure**, Natural Resources Officer, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), FAO

## SPEAKERS

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- Ms **Ceris Jones**, Senior climate change adviser at the UK National Farmers Union, UNFCCC Focal Point for Farmers' Constituency
- Ms **Eularia Zulu**, Farmer and Chairperson, Chongwe District Agribusiness Hub
- Dr **Petan Hamazakaza**, Principal Research Officer, Zambia Agriculture Research Institute
- Ms **Alimatou Badji**, Agricultural Technician, Association for the Promotion of the Senegalese Woman (APROFES), Senegal
- Mr **Lamine Diatta**, Program Officer, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal
- Mr **Geovanny Enriquez**, Coordinator of the Climate-Smart Agriculture Cocoa Project, FAO Ecuador
- Mr **Vijay Kumar**, Special Chief Secretary, Natural Farming, Government of Andhra Pradesh, India
- Mr **Karl Deering**, Strategic Partnerships Lead, Food and Water System team, CARE, USA
- Mr **Martial Bernoux**, Senior Natural Resources Officer, OCB, FAO

## EVENT SUMMARY

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Promoting community-based approaches is crucial to finding concrete, adapted and sustainable solutions to climate change in the agriculture sectors because it enables integrating scientific insights into local knowledge systems, and empowering local actors to take a leading role in improving their production systems. This side event contributed to building a dialogue on how to turn global and national commitments into concrete actions at the local and national levels, leveraging the potential of community-based, bottom-up strategies in agriculture and food systems.

Representatives of farmers' organizations, non-governmental organizations, development projects, research institutes and governments shared concrete solutions of building sustainable climate resilience in the agriculture sectors through three approaches: Farmer Field Schools (FFS), Indigenous Chakra systems and Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA). Engaging discussions further explored why and how to make adaptation planning processes more inclusive; related challenges and drivers of success; and supportive enabling conditions to broaden inclusive, context-specific and resilient pathways towards the transformation of agri-food systems.

## KEY SHOWCASED ACTIONS

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- In Zambia, CSA initiatives are boosting the resilience to climate hazards of communities and transforming local agri-food sectors through knowledge transfer of traditional expertise and innovations.
- In India and Senegal, Farmer Field Schools showed concrete and effective results in enhancing people-centered learning and helping smallholder farmers to find context-specific solutions to respond to climate change, solve production problems and improve resilience. Incorporating agroecology and reforestation, and targeting specific groups in vulnerable situations, such as women and youth, have improved resilience, yields, food security, and financial independence for the communities.
- In Tanzania, building men's and women's capacities to bargain, engage in markets, and demand rights and services through Farmers Field and Business Schools, helped to address inequitable gender behaviors and increased production.
- Mainstreaming CSA practices in traditional Chakra systems in Ecuador has contributed to the improvement of Indigenous People's incomes and to a fair access to markets for women and youth, while continuing to protect eco-biodiversity and strengthen mitigation and adaptation potentials of Ecuadorian sustainable Cocoa cultivations.

## KEY TAKEAWAY MESSAGES

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- Bottom-up approaches need to be prioritized in the design and implementation of climate policies as well as long-term development, and investment strategies to give rural people adequate means of addressing the multiple crises we face today.
- Contextual differences, climate change impacts, and effective practices must be understood, to build "no-regret" actions on the ground that feed into climate policies. Climate action and capacity building is needed from the community level to the institution level (local and national), to improve the effectiveness and prioritization of actions to help attain our climate commitments and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Moving towards real transformation of our agri-food systems will require a more holistic and coordinated approach that encourages joint efforts between governments, research, civil society, private sector and international organizations, from different sectors, with rural people at front and center.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

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- SAGA project
- The 10 elements of agroecology
- IISD event (article)
- Global Farmer Field School Platform
- Building climate-smart cropping system
- CSA Case studies 2021



WATCH THE RECORDING

## Intergenerational approach to climate change: potential and solutions

Francophonie Pavilion – 12 Nov 2021

In partnership with the World Food Forum (WFF), Institute of the Francophonie for Sustainable Development (IFDD), the governments of Senegal and Quebec (Canada) and the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS).

## MODERATOR

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- Ms **Juliette Tronchon**, Policy and Public Affairs Specialist at ProVeg International and Member of Food@COP

## SPEAKERS

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- Ms **Maria Helena Semedo**, Deputy Director-General, FAO
- Ms **Christelle Nickie Assogba**, Director, Mer et Monde, Canada
- Mr **Lamine Diatta**, Program Officer, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal
- Mr **Phendy Jacques**, Researcher and professor, State University of Haiti, Faculty of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine
- Mr **Kamiar Torabi**, Agricultural and Resource Economics Engineer, International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS)
- Mr **Sena Alouka**, Executive Director, Youth for the Environment, Togo

## EVENT SUMMARY

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Transforming our agri-food systems is a global challenge which requires all hands on deck: this must be grounded in a whole-of-society approach that includes women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and all marginalized groups. This side event contributed to building a dialogue around what inclusive transformative climate action means, and the importance of including multi-stakeholder intergenerational perspectives in planning for such significant socio-economic changes, in developing countries. Young and more experienced actors from the Francophonie highlighted transformative solutions that contribute to building bridges between generations and strengthening youth engagement and leadership in delivering sustainable resilient livelihoods and food security. The roundtable discussed a variety of challenges related to intergenerational collaboration from the community level to the COP26 level and provided recommendations to make inclusive and meaningful contributions to achieving the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

## KEY SHOWCASED ACTIONS

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- In Senegal and Kenya, community-based initiatives supporting youth entrepreneurship, have provided tangible opportunities for youth to earn a living while contributing to inclusive, resilient and sustainable local agriculture. These initiatives fostered youth ownership of traditional knowledge through intergenerational collaboration between youth and elder farmers.
- Youth volunteering and commitment around environmental issues can also offer new job opportunities. Actions led by the Jeunes volontaires pour l'environnement association in Togo highlighted the importance of success models and training on natural resources and agriculture at the grassroots level, to encourage youth involvement in agriculture sectors.
- In Haiti, creating spaces for intergenerational discussions has increased engagement among young farmers, enabling them to define their needs in terms of climate change adaptation and capacity building. The same strategy is used by the Conseil National de Concertation et de Coopération des Ruraux (CNCR) in Senegal, fostering dialogue and collaboration between young and old.
- Dedicated state institutions can successfully expand the impact of interventions in favour of youth. In Senegal for instance, the National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment supports young people throughout the country in the development and execution of their entrepreneurial projects through training programs, technical coaching and financing.

## KEY TAKEAWAY MESSAGES

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- 1.8 billion young people between the ages of ten and 24 - nearly 90 percent of them in developing countries – have enormous potential to make our agri-food systems better adapted and resilient to climate change. Moving toward transformation will require reconciling the visions of agriculture held by younger and older people and fostering intergenerational collaboration from the community level to the policy level.
- Intensifying policy efforts and investments in education and in the development of rural communities is crucial to facilitate the integration of young people in agricultural professions. Addressing the issue of employment and employability of youth in developing countries is fundamental.
- Interventions must take into account the needs of both young and older generations and reflect their local realities. Intergenerational approaches in project and policy design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation can help close the gap between generations and enhance effectiveness of actions.
- Collaborative frameworks are important to ensure transmission of knowledge and know-how from one generation to the other. In particular, bridging the digital gap between young and older generations, custodians of traditional knowledge, is needed.
- To inform policy makers, more research on intergenerational issues such as wage disparity, access to productive resources or links of the food value chains where young people can get involved and make margins, is required.

## USEFUL RESOURCES

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- SAGA project
- World Food Forum
- IFDD
- Jeunes volontaires pour l'environnement
- Mer et Monde
- IAAS