

## 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture

### **Item 2.7: The catalyser role of the UN Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028 (UNDFFF) and progress towards its implementation**

The UNDFFF aims to provide a clearly defined and cohesive framework for Members to develop, improve and implement public policies and investments in support of family farming and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) lead its implementation.

In the period 2019-2021, key highlights of progress have been:

- official endorsement of National Action Plans for family farming (NAPs) in 10 countries;
- development and endorsement of the Regional Action Plan for family farming in the Near East and North Africa Region, and development of sub-Regional Action Plans in Central America and South Asia;
- approval and issuing of 185 policies, laws and regulations to support family farmers and their transformative potential;
- massive mobilization of over 2 600 stakeholders, including family farmers' organizations and federations, in the framework of the National Committees of Family Farming and other multistakeholder platforms;
- development of global knowledge products, including policy, legal, communication and advocacy tools, to support implementation at national level;
- launch of the Regional Technical Platform for Family Farming, a tool available to countries worldwide to facilitate the exchange of ideas, experience and knowledge, in 2021; and
- direct support to 20 countries in different regions, by assisting in mobilizing stakeholders and providing technical assistance for the development of relevant legislation and policies.

The UNDFFF proved to be a suitable mechanism to effectively contextualize international tools and guidelines in support of family farmers, and to channel key emerging priorities, needs and concrete solutions from the local and national level, to feed the international agenda.

As a follow up of the UN Food Systems Summit, the Coalition on Family Farming and on strengthening actions in support of the UNDFFF was launched thanks to the initiative of some Members, aimed to leverage the Decade's implementation mechanisms to scale up and scale out the already achieved results.

The UNDFFF's contribution to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*, is well shown by the multiple connections between the UNDFFF Global Action Plan (GAP) and the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 (SF).

The GAP's Pillar 1 is an effective leverage of the SF's accelerators; its transversal Pillars 2 and 3 address the cross-cutting themes of gender equality and youth. The *four betters* and their systemic approach are well reflected in various GAP outcomes under Pillars 4, 5, 6 and 7.

The national mechanisms developed under the UNDFFF are suitable entry points for relevant FAO work under Programme Priority Areas (in particular BE3, BP4 and BL2), leveraging already existing resources and capacities in FAO and in the country that can be effectively mobilized to provide country-specific, synergic and integrated technical and policy support.

The Committee is invited to, *inter alia*:

- *recall* the continuous need to comprehensively support family farmers as key actors in promoting social innovation in the agrifood systems, while making important contributions to sustainable development and accelerating progress in achieving the SDGs;
- *recognize* the potential of the UNDFP and of the National Action Plans for Family Farming as catalysts to support the implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 at national level; and
- *invite* Members to accelerate efforts and enhance resource mobilization to support family farmers through conducive policies and investments.

*Ms Marcela Villarreal, Director, Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU)*