

EDF at COP27: Events

Please join EDF and our partners. Details and registration links below.

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Sunday, November 6

Event: Farmers and innovators at the center: Solutions for creating resilient food systems for tomorrow

Time: 15:00 - 15:50 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Enabling food systems to become more resilient:

- Technologies and systems that already exist today and have a high relevance for increasing food systems resilience of tomorrow
- Purpose-born and -driven innovation, agrifood technologies
- Financing and advancing ideas and technologies, science and data to sustainably farm tomorrow
- Adaptation and grassroot innovations
- Pioneering small-scale farmers adapting to a new reality
- Adapting to shocks: The role of governments in building national resilience and food security

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - **Jennifer Chow**, Senior Director, Climate Resilient Food Systems, Environmental Defense Fund
- Scene setter - José Luis Chicoma, former Minister of Production, Peru
- Nura Aman, Farm Africa Programme Manager for REDD+ and FSD projects, Ethiopia
- Padraic Flood, Team Lead Crop Genetics, Chief Impact Officer, Infarm
- Patricia Pinho Deputy Science Director at IPAM (Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amaz)
- Nichola Dyer, Safe Seaweed Coalition
- Omar Farhate, IAAS World President 20/21, Co-head of FAYI (Food and Agriculture Youth Institute)

Event: A virtual field visit to farming communities in Malawi

Time: 16:30 - 18:00 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: There are few populations who will be more impacted by climate change, and bear so little responsibility for it, than small-scale producers. It is critically important that COP27 participants understand how climate change is a lived reality for these populations; they already represent the vast majority of the most poor and food insecure populations in the world, and their livelihoods are only getting more precarious.

We intend to showcase this reality through a “virtual field visit” with small-scale producers in Malawi – one of the most climate stressed countries in Africa; it will include a mix of videos, recordings, and live (virtual) Q&A with producers, from where they live and work.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Opening Remarks - **Jennifer Chow**, Senior Director, Climate Resilient Food Systems, EDF
- Live virtual visit to Malawian small-scale farmers, facilitated by One Acre Fund
- Live virtual visit to Malawian small-scale inland fishers, facilitated by EDF's partner Abby Bennett (MSU)

Event: Food Systems Transformation and the future of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Time: 18:15 - 19:00 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) is the only formal mechanism through which agriculture and food security are considered with relation to climate change by

the Parties to the Convention. Unfortunately, progress has been slow on coming to any decisions, and Parties were stymied during their last meeting (in Bonn in June, 2022) so that there are still no KJWA conclusions or commitments and no plans for implementation. In addition, the focus and scope of KJWA is overly narrow, excluding many critical food system components and levers for change. As this is the only officially sanctioned pathway to influence COP Party NDCs, NAPs, and finance plans to include and tackle food system challenges it is critical that those of us in the “food system world” begin paying attention and applying pressure.

Our goals with this session are:

To increase urgency among Parties to KJWA to move through procedural challenges and generate a set of actionable commitments which can begin to be implemented as soon as possible;

To strengthen and expand KJWA negotiations and outcomes to include overlooked aspects of the food system, including:

- Methane reduction opportunities
- Aquatic foods
- Food loss and waste

Speakers/Panelists:

- Martina Fleckenstein, Global Policy Director Food, WWF International
- George Wamukoya, Team Leader, African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES)
- Martial Bernoux, Senior Officer, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment, FAO
- Bernadette Fischler Hooper, Head of International Advocacy, WWF International
- Janie Rioux, Senior Technical Specialist, Environment and Climate Finance, IFAD
- Luke Spajic, Youth Representative
- **Jennifer Chow**, Senior Director, Climate Resilient Food Systems, Environmental Defense Fund

Tuesday, November 8

Event: Banking on the Future

Time: 11:00-12:00 EET

Location: EU Pavilion Online Platform

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Banks will play a key role in fostering the new energies and industries that we need to meet 2050 goals. Chaired by Environmental Defense Fund Europe, this event will convene banking sector representatives from around the world in a conversation on their visions for financing climate-compatible growth.

Discussions will cover learning from the past and building future resilience, while tapping into the investment potential emerging markets offer and developing partnerships to galvanize growth – particularly in the global South.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Chair – **Jill Duggan**, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund Europe
- Opening address/ scene-setting – Hannah Ryder, CEO, Development Reimagined
- Panel session – representatives from banks across global regions

Event: Macroeconomic Uncertainty Meets Climate Perils: How should policymakers respond?

Time: 11:00-12:30 EET

Location: The Climate Compatible Growth Venue: Congress Centre at Maritim Jolie Ville Resort & Casino

[Online registration & in-person directions here](#)

Description: Nearly three years after the first case of COVID-19, the economic hangover continues. High inflation, tightening monetary policy, a strong US dollar, volatile commodity prices, and the realities of war are all contributing to high global economic uncertainty, with heterogenous impacts across nations. At the same time, previous climate inaction has left a very small window for policy intervention. Are there ways to address our economic, global security, and environmental hurdles at once? What are the key barriers? What do recent efforts tell us and what work still needs to be done?

Speakers/Panelists:

- Chair - Brian O’Callaghan, Smith School of Enterprise, University of Oxford
Session format: Panel discussion with interactive voting and Q&A
- Phoebe Koundouri, Professor Athens University of Economics and Business & Technical University of Denmark; President of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE)
- Nicola Ranger, Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford
- Jean-Paul Adam, Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resource Management Division, United Nations Economic Division for Africa
- Pekka Morén, Special Representative of Finance Minister, Climate Action at Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action
- **Suzi Kerr**, Chief Economist, Environmental Defense Fund
- (TBC) Daniel Mminele, Head of the Presidential Climate Finance Task Team of South Africa

Event: Promoting Nature-based Solutions through the Article 6.2 Cooperative Approaches in the Forest Sector

Time: 15:00 - 16:50 EET

Location: Korea Pavilion

Description: As witnessed in Glasgow's Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use, forest sector has been reaffirmed as an important area to address climate change as a nature-based solution. In this context, by promoting the uses of Cooperative Approaches under Article 6.2, forest sector can contribute not only to achieving NDCs of participating Parties but also to helping developing countries to realize sustainable development. This international seminar attempts to address the following questions by the seminar participants:

- What are the issues that developing countries have in order to develop and implement cooperation in the forest sector in accordance with Art. 6 and other rules of the Paris Agreement?
- What should be done to develop and implement Cooperative Approaches mechanisms to maximize their contributions considering different NDCs under the different national circumstances of participating Parties?
- What are the potential roles of non-state actors such as international organizations, experts, and private sector to facilitate development and implementation of Cooperative Approaches mechanisms to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity?

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Suzi Kerr**, SVP, Chief Economist, Environmental Defense Fund
- **Grazyna Pulawska**, Associate Director of Asia Europe Foundation
- **Rae-Hyun Kim**, National Institute of Forest Science of Republic of Korea
- **Melissa Low**, NUS Center for Nature-based Climate Solutions

Event: Research Dialogues: Climate Research for Policy and Practice

Time: 16:00-17:10 EET

Location: The Climate Compatible Growth Venue: Congress Centre at Maritim Jolie Ville Resort & Casino

[Online registration & in-person directions here](#)

Description: Countries in the South stand at a critical juncture in their commitment to taking action against climate change. Research will have a crucial role to play in ensuring the uptake of knowledge generated into policy making and the world of practice. The importance of integrating diverse lines of evidence to understand the risks associated with climate change and capitalize on opportunities cannot be overemphasized. The key issue is how to strengthen interactions among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. Indeed, over the past two decades, there has been a rapid rise in knowledge on climate science, adaptation, and mitigation. Given that climate solutions call for contributions from multiple disciplines and work across sectors, building good partnerships will be critical.

The aims of the side event on the climate research, policy, and practice interface is to share experiences between organizations about their practices, especially how they build and nurture trust and good working practice. It will also discuss ways in which different states behave (and operate) differently in using the contributions made by the research community.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Chair - Angela Churie Kallhauge**, Executive Vice President of Impact, Environmental Defense Fund
- Lakshmi Bhamidipati, Advisor, Energy and Climate, UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre
- Rebekah Shirley, Director of Research, Data & Innovation at WRI Africa
- Bernard Tembo, Independent Data Science and Energy Modelling Expert
- Lucas Somavilla, CCG Partnerships, UCL
- Elizabeth Tennyson, CCG National Partnerships, Centre for Global Equality

Wednesday, November 9

Event: The Challenges and Opportunities to Mobilize Finance Solutions for Food System Transformation: Opening Session

Time: 9:00 – 9:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: The food system has financial gaps that need to be solved as there is a need to finance adaptation and supply. Here are some of the key bottlenecks and the issues we hope to address this day:

- Accessibility of finance solutions and financial availability.
- Small and medium-size agri- businesses struggle to scale up how to move on to a commercial scale, and this is largely due to a lack of finance.
- De-risk investments, catalyze sustainable businesses and markets while building reliable funding streams for agri-food systems.
- The gap between finance flowing into nature-based solutions in food systems and what finance is needed to unlock the full potential of such solutions.

Vulnerable communities have been disastrously impacted by COVID, conflict, climate change and the cost of food and inputs. This session will identify strategic actions to engage farmers and consumers and align mitigation & adaptation efforts for inclusive and resilient, nature-positive food systems.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Simon O’Connel, Chair EU Practicioners Network; CEO SNV
- **Angela Churie Kallhauge**, EVP, Impact, Environmental Defense Fund
- Patty Fong, GAFF

- Susan Chomba, WRI Africa
- H.E. Haile Mariam Desalegn, AGRA Board Chairperson
- Juergen Voegele, Vice-President World Bank
- Svein Tore Holsether, Yara CEO
- Berry Martin, Rabobank CEO
- Pieterneel Boogaard, Director FMO
- Closing remarks - Marcel Beukeboom, Permanent Representative to the FAO

Event: The Sustainable Innovation Forum: Integrity in Carbon Markets Panel: What is needed to ensure we are truly protecting and regenerating the planet?

Time: 15:30 – 16:10 EET

Location: The Climate Action Innovation Zone

Register for event here

Description: This panel will discuss how carbon markets are rapidly growing as companies and consumers look to offset the environmental impact of their choices, and address the questions:

- How can we meet the demand for a quality global carbon market that operates effectively to ensure genuine impact for the planet?
- What are the opportunities of blockchain and digital technology?
- How close are we to developing an agreed standard for certifying carbon credits?

Speakers/Panelists: BusinessHub

- **Suzi Kerr**, Senior Vice President, Chief Economist, Environmental Defense Fund
- Angelene Huang, CEO & Founder, Alliance for Impact
- Brennan Spellacy, CEO, Patch
- Dr Spencer Meyer, Head of Science, NCX
- Francisco Benedito, Co-founder & CEO, ClimateTrade
- Moderator – Satya S. Tripathi, Secretary-General, Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet

Thursday, November 10

Event: ILO-LSE Grantham: Towards financing a just transition to low-carbon economies. A new just transition finance tool for banks and investors

Time: 10:00-11:15 EET

Location: ILO Pavilion (Blue Zone)

Description: The objective of the event will be to launch a new just transition tool on banking and investment developed by the ILO and the LSE and discuss how financial institutions can move beyond commitments and take practical steps for a just and ambitious climate transition.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Mandy Rambharos**, Vice President, Global Climate Cooperation, Environmental Defense Fund

Event: Clean Air Catalyst: A Multi-Level Approach to Accelerating Climate Action in Cities Around the World

Time: 16:30-18:20 EET

Location: Multi-level Action Pavillion (ICLEI)

Description: Clean Air Catalyst is a flagship program funded by the US Agency for International Development (co-led by EDF and WRI) to accelerate locally-tailored solutions to curb air pollution, tackle climate change and improve human health. In this session, we will highlight the work of partners in Indore India, Jakarta Indonesia and Nairobi Kenya who are at the forefront of developing integrated approaches to climate and clean air action.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Sarah Vogel**, SVP, Healthy Communities, Environmental Defense Fund
- Genevieve Maricle, Sr Advisor Climate and Environment, USAID
- Pratibha Pal, Municipal Commissioner, city of Indore, India

Friday, November 11

Event: Producer-Driven Regenerative Solutions Across Geographies and Ecosystems

Time: 10:00-10:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavillion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Unsustainable agricultural practices combined with the environmental impacts of crossing the planetary boundaries are resulting in widespread soil degradation and threatening food security. Sustainable food production, healthy ecosystems, and carbon sequestration are cyclically linked. This event will highlight this relationship and explore the potential for well-managed food production techniques to improve soil health, sequester carbon and improve biodiversity while also improving producer livelihoods across a variety of geographies and food production-linked ecosystems.

Productive and regenerative agriculture can help deliver climate resilience by maintaining and enhancing soil health, diversifying incomes for farmers and driving positive nutrition outcomes. By combining the principles of agroecology/ agroforestry with collaborative (between e.g., local producers/farmers/ranchers, NGOs, companies), rights-based approaches that center the needs and perspectives of the impacted producer communities it's possible to maintain or restore healthy ecosystems and ecosystem service provisioning while providing food and livelihoods for an equitable, sustainable, and climate-resilient future.

Speakers from diverse geographies will demonstrate how collaborative, context-specific approaches can boost soil health, protect forests, enhance biodiversity and increase carbon sequestration at the farm, and discuss ways in which these local outcomes can be scaled to tackle broader landscape and global challenges.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Morgan Gillespy, Global Director, Food and Land Use Coalition
- KM Jayahari, PhD, FOLU India Country Coordinator
- (TBC) Additional Chief Secretary (Agriculture) in Madhya Pradesh
- Richard Smith, Regional Coordinator for Mato Grosso, Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazonia (IPAM)
- Arianna Giuliadori, General Secretary, World Farmers Organisation
- Liliana Gutiérrez Mariscal, Coordinator for the Mexican Initiative for Coasts and Ocean
- (TBC) FOLU Colombia Ambassador

Event: Mechanisms for tropical forest protection in Indigenous territories in the Amazon

Time: 13:00-14:00 EET

Location: Nature Zone Pavillion

[More details for event here](#)

Description: During this event, COICA and member organizations will describe the work and initiatives they have been engaging in to-date to scale tropical forest protection in their territories, identifying progress that they've made to date and next steps.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Representatives from COICA, its member organizations and other IPLC groups.

Event: Advancing toward the Glasgow Climate Pact: A call to action to achieve one gigaton of emissions reductions from forests by 2025

Time: 15:00-16:00 EET

Location: Nature Zone Pavilion

[More details for event here](#)

Description: Setting an interim goal of achieving 1 gigaton of emissions reductions from forests by 2025 is critical. During this session, speakers will (i) address the importance of adopting a mid-term milestone towards the Glasgow Pact; (ii) provide an overview of the gap towards achieving the gigaton milestone; and (iii) propose actions to accelerate progress towards the gigaton goal.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Breanna Lujan**, Senior Manager, International Policy and Partnerships, Natural Climate Solutions, Environmental Defense Fund
- Waldez Goes, Governor, State of Amapá, Brazil
- Lola Cabnal, Director, Ak'Tenamit
- Dirk Nemitz, Team Lead, AFOLU, United Nations Environment Programme
- Susan Gardner, Director, Ecosystems Division, United Nations Environment Programme
- Maggie Charnley, Head of International Forests Unit, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Event: Creating win-wins on soil? Rewarding smallholder farmers for building soil organic carbon

Time: 18:00-18:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavillion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: COP26, the United Nations climate change conference last year, emphasized the urgency to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, both via emission reductions and the sequestration of atmospheric CO₂, while ensuring a just transition to a low carbon economy.

These calls, however, have resulted in a massive push toward tree planting. But the potential of soils to store carbon, has hitherto not received as much attention as tree planting. Indeed, the earth's soils contain about 2,500 gigatons of carbon, more than three times the amount of carbon in the atmosphere and four times the amount stored in all vegetation.

Soil carbon markets, however, have had difficulties even in advanced economies with very large farm sizes (>1000 ha) because anyone wanting to avail of the carbon credits has to use an approved methodology to demonstrate the carbon sequestered. While smallholder farmers would benefit greatly from being able to avail of carbon credits for shifting to regenerative practices and managing their land better, the question of whether, in practice, any of these funds will ever reach them remains to be seen.

The panelists will discuss successful approaches by which smallholder farmers have been successfully rewarded for boosting soil organic carbon. How can such efforts be scaled? What are the institutional architectures needed to overcome the transaction cost problem while protecting smallholders interests?

Speakers/Panelists: (ALL TBC)

- **Richie Ahuja**, AVP, Climate Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund
- Veena Srinivasan, ATREE
- Leigh Winowiecki, ICRAF
- Vikas Hosoor, Rainmatter Foundation
- Abi Vanak, ATREE

Event: Celebrating the Role of Indigenous Peoples in Natural Climate Solutions

Time: 18:00-20:00 EET

Location: Nature Zone Pavillion

[More details for event here](#)

Description: Indigenous Peoples are integral to the success of natural climate solutions. This evening reception will feature a discussion with Indigenous Peoples representatives on their important role in nature conservation, and why climate action needs to include Indigenous voices and experiences. We will screen the first of a series of videos featuring individual Indigenous Peoples storytellers from around the world.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Mark Morage**, Vice President, Natural Climate Solutions, Environmental Defense Fund
- Juan Carlos Jintiach, Technical Advisor for Climate Change, Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), Technical Secretary Global Alliance of Territorial Communities
- Tabea Cazique, Education Coordinator of COICA, Secretary of AIDSESEP
- Javier Kinney, Forest Carbon Markets Manager, Yurok Tribe
- Francisca Oliveira da Lima Costa, Presidente do Comitê Regional para Parcerias com Povos Indígenas e Outras Populações Tradicionais (GCF)
- Manjo Basiru Isa, REPALEAC

Saturday, November 12

Event: Building Nutrient-Dense Global Food Systems

Time: 14:40-15:40 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: This session will focus on how food and climate solutions are interlinked. To achieve climate solutions, we need to find ways to ensure that people are nourished, not only filled up with empty calories. Nutrient-dense crops that are accessible and affordable are needed to solve both the hunger and climate crises.

Most governments continue to ignore nutrition at the expense of their populations. How can policymakers find ways to include farmers, businesses, and eaters in policies that impact food and agriculture systems in the future?

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Danielle Nierenberg, President, Food Tank
- Monicah Yator, Indigenous Women and Girls Initiative (Kenya)
- Ertharin Cousin, Founder and CEO, Food Systems for the Future
- Stineke Oenema, Executive Secretary, U.N. Nutrition
- David Brandes, Co-Founder and CEO, Planetary
- Michelle Tigchelaar, Research Scientist, Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions
- Dana Omran, Director for African and Global Strategy, Resilient Cities Network
- Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, Government of Egypt
- Hanneke Faber, President of Nutrition, Unilever

Event: Pastoralism and Rangelands Restoration: Promising solutions to benefit our planet and people

Time: 15:30-16:15 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: The share of ruminant livestock in greenhouse gas emissions and its responsibility for climate change on a global scale is often the subject of debate at the global level, raising questions about animal source derived food in sustainable diets. While this debate in high-income countries polarizes opinions on intensive livestock farming, it is important to take a more local perspective of the footprint of traditional livestock systems in the drylands, highlands, shrubland and wetlands to question, not only, their resilience in the face of climate change and their sustainability for the environment, but also their efficiency in the fight against food insecurity and malnutrition.

Rangelands including grasslands, savannahs and tundra, occupy 54% of all land on earth. They ensure food security for millions of people and provide valuable ecosystem services, including climate regulation, conserving biodiversity and water supply. One third of the world's total soil carbon is stored in rangelands; up to 70 t/ha of additional soil carbon could be stored through restoration. Nature-based pastoralism and restoration of grasslands and rangelands will require an urgent and combined effort of controlling conversion, restoring natural ecosystems, and rehabilitating degraded lands.

Through this moderated panel, we seek to:

- Encourage agreement for measures to urgently control conversion of rangelands and grasslands
- Acknowledge the contribution of sustainable rangeland/grassland management for ecosystem services and building community and ecosystem resilience to climate change

- Recognize pastoralists as guardians of rangelands and strengthen capacities, including of youth and women
- Encourage Member States to carry out regional assessments of rangelands, grasslands and pastoralism to close the data gaps
- Raise awareness for International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026
- Call to adopt a reasoned and science-based approach and methodology to carbon capture in rangelands

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Jean de Matha Ouedraogo, SNV
- Keynote 1 - Ced Hesse, IIED
- Keynote 2 - Robha Murha Abekeri, Pastoralist Youth representative

Event: Supporting Acceleration of Transition At-Scale: Exploring Climate Action Teams (CAT) and Other Jurisdictional Mechanisms to Accelerate Decarbonization

Time: 15:30 – 17:00 EET

Location: IETA BusinessHUB Pavilion, Area C

[View livestream here.](#) No registration needed.

Description: This event explores how different models of large-scale crediting mechanisms can support economy-wide transformation and decarbonization, support greater climate ambition beyond countries’ nationally determined contributions (NDC), and offer co-benefits for communities and ecosystems. Featuring remarks from experts working on a range of transformational-scale models, this event will examine the LEAF project; jurisdictional approaches to electricity system transformation, as exemplified by South Africa; and the Climate Action Team (CAT) model.

EDF Speakers/Panelists:

- **Suzi Kerr**, Chief Economist, Environmental Defense Fund

Event: The contribution of dairy to resilient food systems in East Africa

Time: 16:30-17:15 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: How can dairy contribute to a resilient food system? This question is faced by the dairy sector actors in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) in the midst of various challenges. Local realities may prioritize food and nutrition security and local economic development over objectives prevalent in other regions of the world, such as reduced greenhouse gas emissions and animal welfare. Climate adaptation may seem more urgent than climate mitigation.

This moderated panel will address:

- Improved feed and forage storage and diet management for cattle (World Bank project in India indicates improved milk yields, higher nutritional content of milk, improved farmer incomes and reduced methane emissions from better feeding and animal health). Feed storage provides resilience during drought periods.
- Adoption of better animal health practices. Hotter temperatures increase the prevalence of livestock pests and disease (mastitis, a bacterial infection of the udder is estimated to increase methane intensity of milk between 4% and 8% and reduce production and milk quality, worms in sheep can increase methane intensity as much as 30%).
- Through a process of co-creation, learnings from the Global North need to be shared, improved and/or fully redesigned for the Global South, and vice versa.
- In countries with high production models, innovations are needed to further reduce the methane intensity of livestock production

Speakers/Panelists:

- Prof. Dr. Ir. Simon Oosting, Wageningen University
- Florence Umurungi, Rwanda National Dairy Platform
- Mr. Marco Streng, Netherlands East Africa Dairy Partnership

Monday, November 14

Event: Water and Aquatic Foods as Critical Components of the Food Systems Transformation

Time: 9:00 - 9:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Both water and blue foods have been undervalued and overlooked in conversations about climate change and food security at both global and national levels. This plenary session will be setting the theme for the entire day, “EMBRACE sustainable water use and aquatic blue food diversity for climate smart food systems,” by highlighting the importance of incorporating blue foods and water into food systems policy and decision making, with particular emphasis on their incorporation in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Action Plans (NAPs).

This session will be a facilitated dialogue between high-level speakers working in the blue floods and water arenas. A moderator will set the scene and provide an overview of the current science on water and blue food systems, then transition to a dialogue between the panelists who can speak directly to the importance of incorporating water and blue food systems into national pathways for climate resilient food systems, including NDCs and NAPs.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - **Angela Churie Kallhauge**, VP of Impact, Environmental Defense Fund
- Shakuntala Thilsted, Researcher and World Food Prize Laureate with WorldFish One CGIAR
- Henk Ovink, UN Special Envoy for Water Affairs
- Dr Callist Tindimugaya, Water Resources Specialist, Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda
- Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for Oceans (video remarks)

Event: A Blue Transformation to achieve Paris Agreement Goals

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 EET

Location: UNFCCC Virtual Ocean Pavilion

Description: This fully virtual event, hosted by FAO, will build on outcomes of the UN Ocean Conference and continue discussions on Blue Transformation to drive changes in aquatic food systems.

A panel of experts from the private and public sectors, as well as civil society and non-governmental organizations, will discuss key climate solutions coming out of aquatic systems, as well as the need to transform aquatic food systems to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Welcome and introduction - Mr Erik Giercksky, Head, Sustainable Ocean Business, UN Global Compact
- Opening remarks - Mr Peter Thomson, UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean
- Keynote - Mr. Manuel Barange, Director, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division
- (TBC) CSOs, private sector, International NGOs representatives
- **Willow Battista**, Senior Manager, Climate Resilient Food Systems, Environmental Defense Fund
- Closing Remarks - Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, High-Level Champion of Egypt, UNFCCC COP 27

Event: Aquatic Foods as a Climate-Smart Source of Nutrition

Time: 10:00 - 10:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Aquatic, or “blue,” foods have enormous potential to contribute to achieving net-zero emissions from food systems and to support food security and livelihoods globally through provision of key micronutrients and protein to some of the most climate change vulnerable and food insecure communities in the world. However, the importance of blue foods for food and

nutrition security has been undervalued and overlooked in conversations about climate change and food security challenges.

This session aims to highlight the importance of blue foods for small-scale fishing communities and vulnerable populations, especially women and children. We will hear directly from small-scale fishers and aquaculturists about the current contributions of blue foods to their community's food security and nutrition, and how they are adapting to climate change's effects on essential sources of nutrition and livelihoods. We will also hear from a leading scientist in this field who will share a summary of the mounting evidence that aquatic foods could be key to meeting food and nutrition goals in the face of climate change in coastal countries around the world, as well as a summary of the challenges we must overcome to enable this.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Michelle Tigchelaar, Research Scientist, Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions
- Rahma Adam, Researcher with WorldFish One CGIAR
- (TBC) Editrudith Lukanga, Co-president of WFFP and EMEDO
- (TBC) Yanette Castro, Trazando El Rumbo
- Flower Msuya, Researcher at University of Dar es Salam and chairperson and facilitator at the Zanzibar Seaweed Cluster Initiative (ZaSCI)

Event: Sustainable governance interventions for aquatic foods and water to ensure food and nutrition security in the face of climate change

Time: 11:00 - 11:45 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Aquatic blue foods and water systems have enormous potential to contribute to achieving net-zero emissions from food systems and to support food security and livelihoods globally through provision of key micronutrients and protein to some of the most climate change vulnerable and food insecure communities in the world. Although climate change creates significant risks to the nutritional, economic, and cultural contributions of water and aquatic food systems, management reforms could mitigate many of the negative impacts of climate change.

This session will bring several policy-makers and funders to discuss successful governance and management interventions for aquatic foods and water at the international, national, state, and local levels.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Danielle Nierenberg, President and co-founder of FoodTank
- (TBC) Martha Delgado, Mexican Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights and Sherpa to High Level Ocean Panel
- Rose Labreche, Manager, International Oceans Policy, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Karen Ross, California Secretary of Food and Agriculture
- Darko Manakovski, Global Water Partnership

Official UNFCCC side event: How to bridge the climate finance gap and support smallholders in food systems transformation

Time: 11:30-13:00 EET

Location: Official UNFCCC side event: Osiris Room (300)

Description: Current financing for climate action in food systems is insufficient for the transformation required. This session will focus on the role of climate finance in assisting producers, especially smallholders, and how to engage them in transitioning to low-carbon agriculture while improving livelihoods.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Dhanush Dinesh, Founder, Clim-Eat
- **Fred Krupp**, President, Environmental Defense Fund
- Lini Wollenberg, Climate and Food Specialist, Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT, and University of Vermont
- Ishmael Sunga, CEO, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)
- Alzbeta Klein, CEO, International Fertilizer Association (IFA)

Event: Innovation and Technology in Water and Aquatic Food Systems

Time: 12:00 - 13:00 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

Register for event here

Description: There is no “one-size-fits-all” solution for resilient water and sustainable blue food systems. This panel will underscore the need for a multi-pronged approach to achieve goals for climate-resilient water and blue food systems. We will highlight a series of cutting-edge innovations and technologies from both sectors to improve the sustainability of water and blue foods while ensuring global food and nutrition security in the face of climate change.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Facilitator - Janaya Bruce**, High Meadows Fellow, Environmental Defense Fund
- Maria Lettini, Executive Director, FAIRR Executive Director
- Proscovia Alando, Co-Founder, RESECT Aquaculture
- Joan Salwen, CEO, Blue Ocean Barns
- Aquatic Life Institute (Speaker TBD)
- Katherine Bryar, Global Marketing Director, BioMar
- Ben Conniff, Co-Founder and Chief Innovation Officer, Luke's Lobster
- Bruce Friedrich, Chief Executive Officer of Good Food Institute
- Shannon Cosentino-Roush, Chief Strategy Officer, Finless Foods
- Jippe Hoogeveen, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO, WaPOR
- Gabe Parrish, Remote Sensing Scientist, OpenET

Event: Climate-Aggravated Water Scarcity as a Food Security Issue

Time: 14:20 - 15:05 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Despite their importance in global food systems, both water and blue foods have been undervalued and overlooked in conversations about climate change and food security, and both will be significantly impacted by climate change in the coming years. This takeaway session will highlight some of the primary messages emphasized by the speakers in earlier sessions and tie them to broader conversations about the relationship between blue foods, water, climate, and food systems that have been emphasized in the previous Pavilion thematic days.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Eelco Baan
- Moderator - Sonja Hofbauer
- James Mwangi, SNV Kenya
- Mark Owens, Oregon State farmer representative
- Paula Garcia, New Mexico Asequias
- Jean de Matha Ouedraogo, SNV Niger
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Netherlands (speaker still TBC).

Event: Water Data for Planning and Decision Making

Time: 15:20 - 16:10 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: This interactive session will explore multi-level water data needs and approaches for putting it to use. Data needs for decision making vary for functions and at different scales among users, from the farm to the river basin, from landowner to regulator. After spotlights on challenges and initiatives in different countries, the session will feature a participatory discussion to formulate water data related issues and takeaways. Topics covered will include democratization of data, institutional landscape, community engagement, and monitoring to create sustainable water and food systems.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Sonja Hofbauer, SNV
- Jean de Matha Ouedraogo, SNV Burkina Faso
- Omar M. Zayed, Director of Studies & Hydrological Monitoring Department, General Directorate of Water Resources, Palestinian Water Authority

- Andrew Denu, Head of Climate Innovations, Sunculture
- Mahteme Tora, SNV Ethiopia

Event: The Takeaway

Time: 19:25 – 19:55 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: The sessions today highlighted the importance of both water and sustainable blue food systems for ensuring global food and nutrition security. However, despite their importance in global food systems, both water and blue foods have been undervalued and overlooked in conversations about climate change and food security, and both will be significantly impacted by climate change in the coming years.

This takeaway session will highlight some of the primary messages emphasized by the speakers in earlier sessions and tie them to broader conversations about the relationship between blue foods, water, climate, and food systems that have been emphasized in the previous Pavilion thematic days.

Tuesday, November 15

Event: The Health-Methane Nexus: Opportunities for Action

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 EET

Location: WHO Health Pavillion, Blue Zone

Description: Raise awareness of the intersection between methane mitigation strategies and public health, to elevate health considerations in prioritizing methane mitigation strategies and to identify opportunities to accelerate action.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Facilitator - **Sarah Vogel**, Senior Vice President, Healthy Communities, Environmental Defense Fund
- Adrián Fernández, Executive Director, Iniciativa Climática de México (in person)
- Carolina Urmeneta, Program Director for Circular Economy, Global Methane Hub (in person)
- Todd Crane, Principal Scientist on Climate Change Adaptation, International Livestock Research Institute
- Rodrigo Seguel, Researcher, Center for Climate and Resilience Research (virtual)

Event: Catalyzing Corporate Climate Action through the Tropical Forest Credit Integrity Guide

Time: 15:00-16:00 EET

Location: Nature Zone Pavillion

[More details for event here](#)

Description: The Tropical Forest Credit Integrity (TFCI) Guide provides companies with guidance, developed by consensus between a coalition of NGOs and Indigenous Peoples organizations, on how to differentiate tropical forest carbon credits by impact, quality, and scale. At this event, panelists from collaborating organizations will preview additional implementation guidance on both environmental and social quality issues.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Mark Morage**, Vice President, Natural Climate Solutions, Environmental Defense Fund
- Juan Carlos Jintiach, Technical Advisor for Climate Change, Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), Technical Secretary Global Alliance of Territorial Communities
- Jason Funk, Director of REDD+ Strategy , Conservation International
- Kelley Hamrick, Senior Policy Advisor , The Nature Conservancy
- Paige Langer, Research Analyst , World Resources Institute
- Stephanie Wang, Associate Director , Wildlife Conservation Society
- Josefina Braña Varela, Vice President & Deputy Lead, Forests , World Wildlife Fund
- André Guimarães, Executive Director , Instituto De Pesquisa Ambiental De Amazonia (IPAM)

Official UNFCCC side event: Towards a Robust VCM: Government Actions, Private Sector Engagement, and Carbon Market Integrity

Time: 15:00 - 16:30 EET

Location: Official UNFCCC side event: Akhenaten Room (150)

Description: Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) is key to achieving the Paris Agreement goals. The side event will highlight recent developments in the VCM including discussions on carbon market integrity, increasing efforts of the governments, and engagements with the private sector to mobilize climate financing.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Pedro Barata**, Environmental Defense Fund
- YoungSook Yoo, Climate Change Center
- Choi Jai-chul, Climate Change Center
- Jin Yong Ho, AORA
- Dae Bong KIM, ArtiECO
- Lambert Schneider, Oeko-Institut

- Hajar Khamlichi, OPEMH
- Other experts from governments and international organizations

Wednesday, November 16

Event: Exploring Carbon Credit Quality as a Key to Corporate Climate Action

Time: 8:30-9:30 EET

Location: We Mean Business Pavilion

Register for event here

Description: Carbon credits are in high demand from companies and organizations aiming to meet their climate goals and obligations. To achieve these goals and obligations, carbon credits must be of high quality and effectively contribute to the goals of the Paris Agreement. However, not all carbon credits are of high quality, and it can be difficult for companies and users to navigate the carbon market and identify quality.

This panel of carbon market experts and quality assessment providers will discuss how and why companies should seek out high quality carbon credits that deliver actual climate benefits as well as social and environmental co-benefits.

This CCQI side event will be in Auditorium 1 of the Business Pavilion. For in-person engagement, delegates must have a Blue Zone pass.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Ari Alexander, Salesforce
- **Pedro Barata**, Environmental Defense Fund and Co-Chair of the Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market (IC-VCM)
- Lambert Schneider, Oeko Institut and Carbon Credit Quality Initiative
- Samuel Gill, Sylvera

Event: Solutions for achieving agriculture and food waste methane emission reductions under the Global Methane Pledge (WRI/EDF)

Time: 10:00- 11:00 EET

Location: Climate Justice Pavilion

Speakers/Panelists:

- David Waskow, World Resources Institute, Facilitator
- Ani Dasgupta, World Resources Institute, Moderator
- (TBC) Marcelo Mena, Global Methane Hub
- (TBC) Caitlan Frederick, Fast Action on Climate Ensuring Intergenerational Justice
- (TBC) Yamide Dagnet, Open Societies Foundation

- (TBC) Olumide Idowu, African Youth Initiative on Climate Change

Event: A restoration handbook: What does socially and ecologically responsible ecosystem restoration look like?

Time: 11:00- 11:50 EET

Location: Food Systems Pavilion

Register for event here

Description: Humanity currently faces multiple, interlinked existential crises. The catastrophic consequences of climate change, ecological degradation, and biodiversity loss have cascading knock-on effects on human health and well-being. As the UNCCD recognises, food supply disruptions will become more frequent and food insecurity will rise if land degradation is not immediately reversed in favor of restoration practice. By reversing the threats to soil, biodiversity, water, and other ecosystem services, we can deliver benefits both for the planet and people. However, planning and implementing ecological restoration requires careful planning and executing meaningful partnerships. Even though there are various global efforts towards ecological restoration, the progress has been slow and disparate due to financial, institutional, and governance bottlenecks towards implementing ecological restoration. Given this challenge, the Alliance for Reversing Ecosystem Services Threats (AREST) came together to catalyze convergence, collaboration and cooperation at multiple levels, embracing socio-ecological complexities and gendered aspirations. Through years of on-field research as well as engagement with experts, we have developed a restoration handbook that will guide practitioners, policymakers, and the civil society towards ecologically and socially responsible restoration. This restoration handbook will focus on semi-arid and sub-humid areas. It addresses questions about identifying land for restoration, building partnerships, co-designing interventions, mobilising finance, and finally, scaling up restoration practices.

Speakers/Panelists: (ALL TBC)

- **Richie Ahuja**, AVP, Climate Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund
- **Abi Vanak**, ATREE
- **Javed Rizvi**, ICRAF
- **T. R. Shankar Raman**, NCF
- **Ruth DeFries**, Columbia University

Event: The climate and health nexus

Time: 13:00-14:00 EET

Location: OECD Virtual Pavilion

Register for event here

Description: The OECD COP 27 virtual pavilion on the “Climate & Health Nexus” will share the insights of the programme of Deep Dives of the Forum Engagement Group on Climate & Health

organised since January 2022. The Deep Dives aim to foster a better understanding of the climate change and health nexus, and, in so doing, help catalyse action within the OECD but also by FEG members and society at large.

Despite being considered as the greatest health emergency of the 21st century, climate change's wide-ranging impact on human health deserves far more attention, to bridge the gap in knowledge and understanding and help drive appropriate action.

The session will focus on the international effort that requires in-depth understanding and co-ordination between multiple stakeholders—one in which international organisations like the OECD can play a critical role to systematically tailor policies aimed at simultaneously addressing the pandemic, the recovery and the transition to the net-zero economy.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Moderator - Anthony Gooch, Director of Public Affairs and Communications, OECD
- **Sergio Sanchez**, Senior Policy Director of Clean Air, Health, Environmental Defense Fund
- Reginald D. Williams II, Vice President, International Health Policy and Practice Innovations, The Commonwealth Fund
- Heather L. MacLean, Vice Dean, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, University of Toronto
- Wynand Malan, Head of Operations: MYFARMWEB, Mezzanine

Event: Climate Ambition Takes Flight: Companies and Airlines at the Forefront of Sustainable Aviation Fuels

Time: 13:30-14:30 EET

Location: We Mean Business Pavilion

[Register for event here](#)

Description: Tackling the climate impact of flying is a major challenge for companies depending on business travel and air transport. High-integrity sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) is a solution that could drastically reduce emissions from flying. The Sustainable Aviation Buyers Alliance (SABA), led by Environmental Defense Fund, RMI, and Engie Impact together with leading corporations and top airlines, aims to accelerate the aviation sector's transition to net zero by leveraging SAF in corporate and airline climate strategies.

Speakers/Panelists:

- A panel of speakers from top corporations and airlines in SABA will discuss their work to send a strong demand signal in support of high-integrity SAF, navigate the nascent SAF market, and establish credible tracking systems being created to transparently account for emissions reductions.

Event: Unlocking Blue Prosperity: How blue food communities can survive and thrive in the climate emergency

Time: 13:30 - 14:15 EET

Location: The Resilience Hub

Register for event here

Description: Blue, aquatic foods and the benefits they provide to billions of people around the world are threatened by climate change, especially in countries where significant sustainable development challenges persist. Current efforts to adapt to climate change often focus on preserving the status quo, but for vulnerable aquatic food communities such an approach is not only insufficient but also decouples responses to climate change from sustainable development aspirations.

In this session, experts will discuss the need to raise ambition from adaptation to a “shared blue prosperity” and call on leaders to effect justice-informed financing, innovation, and collaboration to enact this vision.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Tom Grasso**, Vice-President Climate-Resilient Food Systems, Environmental Defense Fund
- Dr. Essam Yassin Mohammed, Interim Director General, WorldFish
- Dr. Michelle Tigchelaar, Research Scientist, Center for Ocean Solutions, Stanford University
- Dr. Rahma Adam, Gender, Social Inclusion & Market Scientist, WorldFish
- Howaida Nagy, Project Manager, CARE Egypt
- Jeremy Ragauin, Alliance of Small Islands States Fellow (2022), Climate change and Ocean Advisor for Seychelles' Mission to the United Nations

Event: Data to Action: How science and data will allow us to act on methane

Time: 15:30 - 16:30 EET

Location: The Zero-Carbon Future pavilion (Blue Zone)

More details for event here

Description: We need strong policies and internationally agreed upon best practices to ensure the rapid reduction of global methane emissions, and technological advancements have opened the door to new possibilities for monitoring methane emissions. However, designing regulations requires a detailed understanding of emissions sources and reduction potential, and compiling and analyzing this information can be a significant barrier for countries interested in moving policies forward to reduce methane pollution.

Join us for a discussion on the need for data to accurately assess methane emissions in key, high-emitting sectors, and learn how this data can help leaders across the world move quickly to reduce methane emissions and avoid irreversible climate tipping points.

Speakers/Panelists:

- Jonathan Banks, Global Director, Methane Pollution Prevention, Clean Air Task Force
- **Dan Grossman**, Associate Vice President, Energy Transition, Environmental Defense Fund
- Mackenzie Huffman, Director, Strategy and Partnerships at Carbon Mapper
- Laura Hutchinson, Manager, Climate-Aligned Industries, RMI
- Antoine Halff, Kayrros

Thursday, November 17

Event: Nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart agrifood systems: tools and options to move to implementation

Time: 8:30 - 9:30 EET

Location: FAO / CGAIR / Rockefeller Food and Agriculture Pavilion

Description: Climate change impacts and risks are becoming increasingly complex and more difficult to manage. Simultaneously, the world is facing the continued crisis of hunger and multiple forms of malnutrition. A shift towards sustainable, climate resilient, food production and food choice that would help reduce health and climate change costs by up to US\$ 1.3 trillion , while supporting healthy diets in the face of climate change. Transformative policy, investments, and action for multiple SDG benefits are a must. Egypt, as COP27 Presidency, in partnership with FAO, WHO, other UN agencies and partners, has developed a global Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) to foster collaboration to address the nexus of climate change and nutrition.

This event will focus on tools, mechanisms, and actions already underway to realize the vision of the I-CAN, and how these can be leveraged, enhanced, and scaled to achieve impact. The event will showcase FAOs work to accelerate progress for the transformation of agrifood systems through efforts that impact Better Environment and Better Nutrition simultaneously. The event aligns with the COP27 vision to move from planning to implementation and showcases harmonization of efforts focused on win-win solutions. Through sharing experiences, challenges, and innovations with concrete recommendations for expanded action, the event will support moving rapidly from the vision of the I-CAN to timely, inclusive, and scaled action on the ground.

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Tom Grasso**, Environmental Defense Fund
- Nancy Aburto, FAO
- Zitouni Ould-Dada, FAO
- Carlo Fadda, Alliance of Bioversity/CIAT
- Elizabeth Akaba, Tuba Women Farmers Association Leader
- Gerda Verburg, Scaling Up Nutrition
- TBC: Felix Phiri, Director of Nutrition and HIV, Malawi Ministry of Health (virtual)

- TBC: Christian Reynolds, Centre for Food Policy, City University
- TBC: Isabel Peña-Rey, Directora Ejecutiva, Agencia Española de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutrición

Event: EDF Panel on Mayors of Resilient Cities

Time: 10:00 EET

Location: Climate Justice Pavilion

Speakers/Panelists:

- **Heather McTeer Toney**, Vice President, Community Engagement, Environmental Defense Fund