
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
WFO GENERAL ASSEMBLY
7-10 JUNE 2022

The role of Farmers' Organisations and Agricultural Cooperatives in the Transition to Sustainable Food Systems

Thematic session, 7 June, 10.30 – 11.15

Providing nutritious and affordable food for a growing global population while preserving biodiversity and ecosystems is one of the major challenge the world is facing for the coming decade. According to SOFI 2021, the prevalence of undernourishment increased 1.5 percentage points in 2020, with conflicts, economic shocks, climate change related disasters being major drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition. All these negative trends have been exacerbated in the past two years by the Covid19 pandemic which caused an unprecedented health, social and economic crisis. However, although the pandemic has caused troublesome effects on food systems globally, disrupting value chains and exacerbating inequalities, farmers worldwide have shown their resilience, making huge efforts to continue producing quality food in a sustainable way. Shifting to more sustainable and resilient food systems has been recognised as a priority on the global agenda in the path towards 2030 and farmers have a major role to play in this transformation. Indeed, investing in organised agriculture, both farmers' organisations and cooperatives, is key to empower farmers as agents of change in the food value chain. The thematic session aims at gathering farmers, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to exchange about the role of farmers and their organisations in the path towards sustainable food systems

Agenda:

- 10.30 – 10.35** **Scene Setting and Speakers Introduction by the Moderator**
- **Nandini Azad**, *President, ICNW Ltd and Facilitator, WFO Working Group on Cooperatives*
 - **James Jhu**, *Project Manager, ICDF Taiwan (virtually)*
 - **Nicole Bolomey**, *Director, AHA International*
 - **Francis Mbabazi**, *CEO, INGABO*
- 10.35 – 10.55** **Interactive Discussion**
- 10.55 – 11.10** **Q&A Session**
- 11.10 – 11.15** **Wrap up and Closing by the Moderator**
- Moderator:** **Dimitri Houtart**, *BBC Rural Affairs Champion*