RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AND PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURE IN THE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEMS

WFO Policy adopted by WFO General Assembly

June 9, 2022
POLICY STRUCTURE

The policy has been structured as follows:

- Preamble
- Guiding Principles
- Main Pillars
- Recommendations
Innovation in Agriculture has been recognized as a crucial driver to improving the quality of production and increasing sustainability in all its dimensions, whereas maintaining productivity levels and farm income.

Innovation does not equal technology. It is much more than that, especially in agriculture. Innovation concerns products, processes, markets, and institutions; it must be technological, social, and organizational.
Innovating the societal perception of farmers and agriculture
Farmers are not only food producers; they are stewards of natural resources, and their place is at the heart of the society in rural areas, creating jobs, spurring economic growth and providing knowledge.

Innovating the paradigms of innovation in agriculture
Innovation should be farmer-driven, based on farmers’ needs, knowledge and expectations and it must be inclusive: this means to be available and affordable for all farmers.
Pre-requisites for innovation: i.e. Basic infrastructures both physical and digital; Political support for Agriculture; Farmers’ Organisation to support farmers and innovation

Climate-Smart Agriculture; Smart Farming and Precision Agriculture

Big Data and Innovation in data management

Innovative business models and technologies that strengthen the position of farmers in the overall agricultural sector and help building trust among actors

Financing innovation in agriculture
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adopt an innovative vision on farmers and Agriculture as a solution-oriented and multifunctional sector

- Shape and adopt a farmer-driven innovation approach

- Empower Farmers' Organizations and cooperatives to effectively support farmers in their innovation path

- Increase public and private investments in infrastructures to support and spur innovation in the farming community

- Develop innovative finance and insurance models for Agriculture