

WFO SOLIDARITY FUND



BACKGROUND

These are times of significant challenges and great concerns. Geopolitical instability, economic uncertainty, climate emergency, and food crisis are just a few examples of the global challenges that have shaken the world, including farmers.

As the **biggest independent voice of the world's farmers** at the international level representing national farmers' associations and cooperatives across the globe, **we stand alongside and care about each and every WFO member**, especially in emergencies, because

NO FARMER SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND!

We value every WFO member organisation, giving them a voice and a seat at the table to advocate for their interests and highlight their contribution towards sustainable and resilient food systems.

We commit to ensuring they can actively and fully participate in the democratic processes ruling our association.

That is why, after an extended consultation of all the regional constituencies (Europe, Asia, Oceania, Africa, Latin America, and North America) started at the end of 2021 and continued for the first quarter of 2022, the WFO Board of Directors established the **WFO SOLIDARITY FUND**

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WHY HAS WFO ESTABLISHED A SOLIDARITY FUND?

WFO has set up the Solidarity Fund and is raising money to **assist and support the member organisations with limited resources, particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of natural disasters, conflicts and famine** or other emergency conditions and therefore unable to fulfil their dues.

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HOW WILL THE WFO SOLIDARITY FUND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The WFO Solidarity Fund can allow **WFO members** to be up to date with their membership fees so that they can **participate actively in the organisation's life and exercise their right to vote within the General Assembly, the highest decision-making body of the WFO.**

HOW WILL THE FUNDS BE USED?

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The Fund shall cover, for a maximum of three consecutive years, a decreasing percentage of the WFO membership fees due by members from Least Developed (LDCs), low and lower-middle income countries or those stroke by natural disasters, conflicts and famine, and other serious events.

The Fund might also facilitate the participation of WFO member organisations from the countries mentioned above in international processes and fora, including the WFO General Assembly or contribute to specific initiatives.



HOW DOES THE SOLIDARITY FUND WORK?

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STEP 1 → Every year the Secretariat receives expressions of interest in having access to the Solidarity Fund.

STEP 2 → **An Advisory Committee**, composed of one representative of the WFO Board and one representative of the donors with the support of the International Secretariat, **reviews the requests and suggests a list of potential recipients to the WFO Board.**

STEP 3 → The WFO Board receives the list and has the final word on the beneficiaries.



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WHO CAN BECOME A DONOR?

The Fund can be **financed first by WFO members** and eventually by third parties.



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WHY SHOULD YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE WFO SOLIDARITY FUND?

No matter where they are from, **farmers support each other, listen to each other and learn from each other.** Because they feel part of the **same community and the same family.**

The more solid and resilient our global farmers' community, the stronger and more impactful our voice and collective bargaining power in the international political process on agriculture and food systems issues.

Contributing to the WFO Solidarity Fund is the way you can do that.



WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO BE RAISED?

2023 is the first year of implementation of the Solidarity Fund. The initial need is 60K Euros, to allow full participation in the 2023 General Assembly to members coming from LDCs, low and lower-middle income countries who are not up to date with WFO fees.

The average need for the subsequent years should be lower, around 25K Euros, because past dues will have been covered.

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