

Issue 29
August 30, 2025

NEWSLETTER

Smart & Net-Zero Project

The Smart Net-Zero (SNZ) project team under the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center (FFTC) for the Asian and Pacific Region regularly collects and shares information related to sustainable agrifood systems and climate-smart agriculture, including research, news, policy, data and event updates around the world on the project website.



Overview

Rethinking Consumption:

Navigating Diet, Waste, and Food Choices

Consumption patterns drive significant emissions, particularly through resource-intensive diets. Shifting consumer behavior and reducing food waste can unlock major mitigation potential. Against this backdrop, the featured review in **Research** reframes sustainability beyond efficiency and growth, advancing five post-growth principles and emphasizing agroecology, localized food economies, cooperative enterprises, ethical finance, and inclusive governance. Complementary studies extend this agenda: from quantifying the trade-offs between diets and waste, to exploring consumer acceptance of upcycled foods, clarifying the meaning of local and seasonal consumption, and assessing the effectiveness of sustainability certification schemes. Together, they underscore the complexity—and urgency—of advancing sustainable consumption by linking social acceptance, systemic governance, and post-growth principles.

News highlights Denmark's plant-based strategy and Taiwan's Green Diet Forum, while **Policy** covers OECD-FAO and IFPRI findings on rising demand and diet gaps. **Open Data** features the Climate-Nutrition Evidence Map and WRI's Coolfood Platform, linking policy, culture, and tools to advance sustainable consumption pathways.

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RESEARCH

01 THEME: Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing; Others

Sustainable agrifood systems for a post- growth world

August 4, 2022 | Nature Sustainability | [Source](#) |

Introduction: An international consortium led by the University of Twente (Netherlands), with partners in Japan, Europe, and the US, reframes agrifood sustainability beyond economic growth. The study underscores the limitations of conventional approaches that emphasize efficiency while leaving structural drivers of ecological and social crises intact. It presents guiding principles for post-growth agrifood systems, illustrated through global practices in production, business, culture, and governance, and proposes a research agenda to document, transfer, and develop solutions for just and resilient food systems.

Key findings: The study contrasts growth-based logics of efficiency, extraction, accumulation, ownership, and control with **post-growth principles of sufficiency, regeneration, distribution, commons, and care**. Agroecology and diversified small farms can achieve high yields and resource efficiency, with smallholders estimated to produce 30–70% of global food. Urban and household gardening is widespread, with 36% of Hungarians, 40% of Czechs, and 54% of Poles engaged; in Czechia, such gardens produce more organic food than the commercial sector. Cuba’s reliance on urban agroecology during fuel shortages demonstrates system resilience.

Alternative business models—such as cooperatives, employee-owned enterprises, and benefit corporations—prioritize public welfare. Ethical finance mechanisms like credit unions and community trusts support alternative food economies. The study calls for ending unequal trade, which drains over US\$10 trillion from the Global South, and advancing ecological reparations. Governance innovations, including food policy councils and futures literacy, can integrate food, health, and environmental policy. The research agenda emphasizes analyzing existing solutions, studying adoption and transfer, and co-creating new approaches, while addressing structural inequities and avoiding uniform scaling.

	Economic principles	Social-ecological principles	Allocative principles	Institutional principles	Relational principles
Growth metabolism	Efficiency	Extraction	Accumulation	Private ownership	Control
Post-growth metabolism	Sufficiency	Regeneration	Distribution	Commons	Care

Figure | Principles by which growth and post-growth metabolisms operate arranged by category.

02 THEME: GHG Emission Reduction; MRV (Measurement, Reporting, Verification)

Eating healthy or wasting less? Reducing resource footprints of food consumption

April 29, 2021 | Environmental Research Letters | [Source](#) |

Introduction: Researchers from the University of Freiburg and University of Kassel (Germany), together with the Vienna University of Economics and Business (Austria), assessed how halving food waste compares with shifting to healthier, plant-based diets in reducing Germany's food-related resource footprints. Using the Food and Agriculture Biomass Input–Output (FABIO) model, they analyzed 2013 supply chains for biomass, cropland, and blue-water use under four scenarios: current diet, German dietary guideline diet, EAT–Lancet sustainable diet, and a low-dairy vegetarian diet—each with and without a 50% food waste reduction. The study evaluated which strategies, alone or combined, deliver the greatest environmental benefits.

Key findings: Dietary changes provided far greater biomass and cropland savings than halving food waste alone. The sustainable and vegetarian diets reduced biomass use by 54–61% and cropland by 43–48%, compared with only 11% and 15% from halving waste. For blue water, halving food waste achieved the largest reduction (14%), while sustainable or vegetarian diets delivered smaller cuts (~7%) and the guideline diet even increased use by 6% unless paired with waste reduction. Combining strategies yielded the greatest benefits: a vegetarian diet plus waste reduction cut biomass by 65%, cropland by 53%, and blue water by 16%.

Yet, plant-rich diets increased the overall mass of food waste because fruits, vegetables, cereals, and roots have higher waste shares. Waste rose from 145 kg/capita/year (current) to 186 kg (guideline), 154 kg (sustainable), and 156 kg (vegetarian). This highlights a trade-off: while healthier diets reduce resource footprints, they may hinder progress on food waste targets. The authors argue that policies should integrate both strategies and track outcomes with resource footprint indicators, rather than waste volumes alone, to avoid misleading priorities and maximize environmental gains.

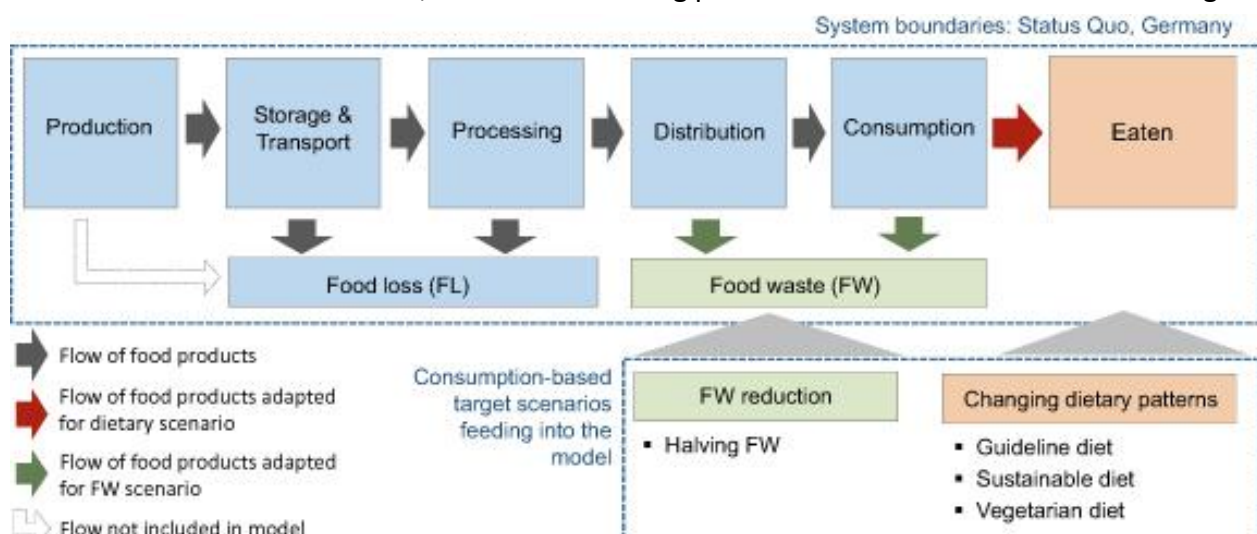


Figure | System definition and boundaries. The supply chains are global and defined based on the food consumed and eaten in Germany. The system processes are defined according to FAO (2011).

03 THEME: Others

Upcycled by-product use in agri-food systems from a consumer perspective: A review of what we know, and what is missing

March 21, 2021 | Technological Forecasting and Social Change | [Source](#) |

Introduction: While the technical aspects of waste-to-value innovations are well studied, consumer perspectives remain underexplored despite their importance for scaling the circular bioeconomy. A Denmark–Brazil research team (Aarhus University; Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul) conducted a systematic review of empirical studies (2010–2020) on consumer acceptance of agri-food products made from upcycled by-products. The study identifies key drivers and barriers, outlines effective communication strategies, and highlights research gaps for future investigation.

Key findings: Acceptance of waste-to-value foods depends on three interacting factors:

- **Individual factors:** Environmental concern, food-waste awareness, higher education, and positive self-perception increase acceptance and willingness to pay. Price sensitivity is common, as many expect lower prices. Evidence on age and gender is mixed, though Baby Boomers often show higher acceptance than younger generations. Organic buyers and environmentally motivated consumers emerge as key target segments.
- **Context factors:** Communicating environmental benefits and food-waste reduction consistently improves attitudes, particularly when messages are framed as other-oriented (e.g., farmer welfare). Transparency can enhance perceptions of fairness but may reduce actual choices, depending on product type and purchase setting. Balanced benefit–risk messages and positive naming significantly improve acceptance of reclaimed water.
- **Product factors:** Processed products made with reclaimed water are more acceptable than fresh ones, while plant-based by-products are preferred over animal-origin alternatives. Familiar technologies, indulgent “vice” categories (e.g., cookies), and favorable tasting experiences further boost consumer receptivity.



The review emphasizes the need for more qualitative, theory-driven, and real-world studies, alongside research in emerging economies. Future work should examine health–environment trade-offs, cultural influences, and emotional responses such as disgust and safety concerns.

04 THEME: Others

The role of local seasonal foods in enhancing sustainable food consumption: A systematic literature review

September 17, 2021 | Foods | [Source](#) |

Introduction: Researchers from the University of Porto and Universidade Aberta (Portugal), in collaboration with EMBRAPA (Brazil), conducted a Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta Analyses (PRISMA)-guided literature review to examine how consumption of local seasonal foods influences sustainable food consumption. The review examined how “seasonal” and “local” foods are defined, which sustainability dimensions are addressed, and what evidence links local seasonality to environmental, economic, and social outcomes, with concepts mapped and synthesized across the three pillars.



Key findings: The review found wide inconsistencies in how “seasonal” and “local” are defined. Seasonality is interpreted as: “in season” (based only on availability), “produced in season” (grown naturally without high-energy inputs), and “local seasonal” (grown and consumed nearby in its natural season without energy-intensive storage). “Local” is described in three ways: geographic (distance or political boundaries), holistic (short supply chains and trust networks), and regional (identity or specialty foods). Among the 116 studies reviewed, only 34 directly examined seasonality, and just 6 considered all three pillars of sustainability. Most focused on economic aspects (willingness-to-pay analyses), with far less attention given to environmental or social dimensions.

The review found that off-season greenhouse production can emit more than long-distance imports, challenging the “food miles” narrative and the “local trap.” The UK’s Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) promotes local seasonality—foods grown outdoors in their natural season and consumed nearby—which offers stronger sustainability benefits than global seasonality. The authors call for clearer labeling rules, supported by life-cycle assessment (LCA) and broader sustainability metrics, while policies should back diversified farming and short supply chains to maximize environmental, economic, and social gains. Key gaps remain in integrating all three pillars, involving multiple stakeholders, and expanding research in developing countries.

05 THEME: Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing; Others

Sustainability standards in global agrifood supply chains

September 2, 2021 | Nature Food | [Source](#) |

Introduction: An international team led by the University of Copenhagen, with collaborators from the US and Germany, reviews the global spread and impacts of private sustainability standards in agrifood supply chains. Schemes such as Fairtrade, Organic, and Rainforest Alliance aim to tackle issues like deforestation, poor labor conditions, and pesticide misuse. Drawing mainly on evidence from coffee and cocoa, the study assesses effects on farmers, workers, consumers, and businesses, while highlighting five critical gaps: causality, exclusion of poorer farmers, compliance, oversupply of certified products, and shifting demand in emerging markets.

Key findings: Sustainability standards currently cover less than 2% of farmland (about 80 million hectares) and involve around 10 million farmers, mostly in coffee and cocoa. Economic benefits are modest and often rely on group certification or subsidies, while 30–70% of certified produce is sold without premiums. Social outcomes are more consistent, with safer agrochemical use and some gender benefits, though hired labor on small farms gains little. Certification encourages greener practices, yet evidence on biodiversity, carbon, or deforestation impacts remains limited. High compliance costs, partial monitoring, and opportunities for evasion reduce effectiveness, while retailers and processors capture much of the price premium. Persistent oversupply reflects subsidies and supply chain segmentation, even as demand remains concentrated in wealthy markets. Overall, standards provide targeted improvements but cannot transform food systems at scale without stronger regulation and inclusion of more marginalized producers.

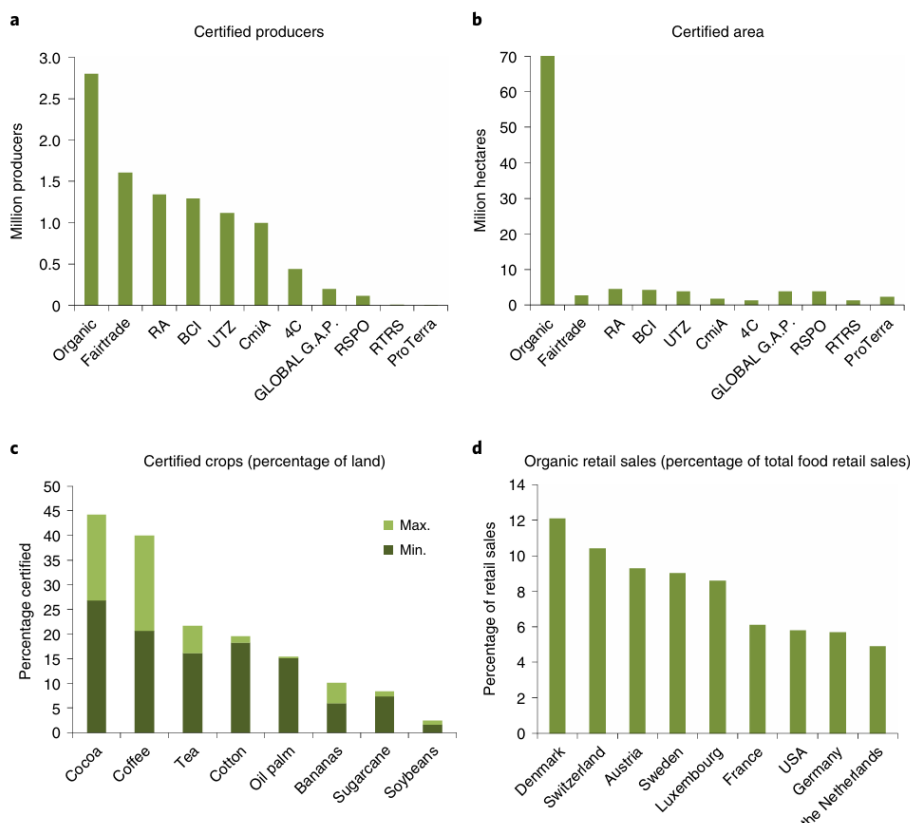


Figure | Proliferation of sustainability standards. a–c are based on 2018 data and d on 2019 data. RA, Rainforest Alliance; BCI, Better Cotton Initiative; CmiA, Cotton Made in Africa; RSPO, Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil; RtRS, Round table on Responsible Soy. Exact figures (c) are difficult to estimate, given the large number of standards, the prevalence of certification under multiple standards and the lack of data on multiple-certified land or producers. Minimum values consider only the area certified under the single most important standard by area. Maximum values sum the areas certified under the most important standards but cannot account for multiple-certified farms. thus, maximum values probably overestimate and minimum values understate the true values.

NEWS

01 THEME: GHG Emission Reduction; Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing

EU considers non-EU carbon credits in push for 90% emissions cut by 2040

July 02, 2025 | [Reccessary](#) |



The European Commission plans to propose a 90% greenhouse gas reduction target by 2040, allowing from 2036 limited use (3%) of international carbon credits to address residual emissions. While aimed at engaging developing countries through projects like afforestation, the move contradicts the EU's existing 2030 and 2050 goals, which rely solely on domestic action. Critics warn it could weaken climate integrity and reduce local ambition,

stressing the need for high-quality, verified credits, with potential costs reaching €46 billion. The draft faces debate in the European Parliament and among member states, with key unresolved issues including offset limits, funding sources, and whether procurement will be handled nationally or by the Commission.

02 THEME: Carbon Sequestration; Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing; MRV (Measurement, Reporting, Verification)

Microsoft (MSFT) signs 2.6 million soil carbon credit deal with Agoro Carbon to meet its net zero goals

July 11, 2025 | [CarbonCredits.com](#) |

Microsoft has signed a 12-year deal with Agoro Carbon to purchase 2.6 million verified soil carbon removal credits, one of the largest agricultural carbon removal agreements to date. Generated from regenerative farming practices across the U.S., these credits—verified under Verra standards—will help Microsoft meet its goal of becoming carbon negative by 2030. The partnership also supports farmers with payments, technical guidance, and tools to adopt practices such as cover cropping, rotational grazing, and reduced tillage, enhancing soil health, biodiversity, and drought resilience while storing CO₂ long-term. Valued for its scientific rigor and transparency, the deal strengthens trust in soil carbon as a credible climate solution.



03 THEME: Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing

UK government gathers business and environment leaders in support of UN nature agreement

June 25, 2025 | [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) |

The UK hosted the “Nature Action: Mobilising Frameworks and Finance” summit at Lancaster House, bringing together governments, Indigenous leaders, and global business and finance representatives to boost private investment in nature. Held during London Climate Action Week and ahead of COP30, the event supports the UN biodiversity goal to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030, aiming to mobilise \$200 billion annually by decade’s end. Commitments included millions in private capital for nature-based solutions, new global partnerships, and innovative investment tools. The UK also joined the Friends of Cali Fund and advanced its goal of becoming the world’s sustainable finance capital.



04 THEME: Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing

Denmark’s vision for EU agriculture is firmly focused on simplicity

July 15, 2025 | [Euractiv](https://euractiv) |



Denmark, holding the EU Council presidency from July–December 2025, has set an agriculture vision centered on simplification, sustainability, innovation, and competitiveness. Priorities include easing administrative burdens through an agricultural simplification package, advancing a “green, simple, and market-oriented” Common Agricultural Policy post-2027, and promoting rural development, organic farming, and climate-aligned measures. The presidency will also push

consumer-focused innovation, new genomic techniques, bioeconomy solutions, and stronger farmer positions in supply chains. Key initiatives include modernizing animal welfare laws, developing an EU plant-based food strategy, and hosting major plant-based food events to drive sustainable dietary shifts.

05 THEME: Policy Incentives, Financing, Pricing

The Green Diet Forum has sparked a new trend in sustainable food culture under the Net-Zero Green Living Alliance in Taiwan

July 16, 2025 | [Executive Yuan](#) (In Chinese) |

On July 16, Taiwan's Ministry of Environment held the 4th "Net-Zero Green Living Alliance" forum, focusing on "Green Diet for a Sustainable Future." Government, business, academia, and civil society discussed actions from sourcing local, seasonal produce to reducing food waste, promoting low-carbon and organic ingredients, and innovating sustainable menus. Speakers shared corporate supply chain transformations, cooperative models linking producers and consumers, and creative approaches to engage youth in sustainable eating. The event connected policy, industry, and community efforts to embed green dining in daily life, advancing net-zero goals while supporting health, resilience, and social equity.



POLICY

01 THEME: Supply Chain; Sustainable Production; Sustainable Consumption

OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2025-2034

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) | [Source](#) | [Report](#) |



OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook
2025-2034



The report provides a comprehensive forecast of global agricultural and fish markets over the next decade.

● **Consumption Growth:** Total consumption is projected to rise by 13%, almost entirely in low- and middle-income countries. Rising incomes will increase demand for animal-source foods, though low-income countries will remain far below FAO's Healthy Diet Basket standard.

● **Production Expansion:** Global production is expected to increase by 14%, led by middle-income countries. Productivity gains will dominate growth, but cropland and livestock expansion in Africa and South Asia will contribute to higher emissions.

- **Emissions Outlook:** Despite reduced carbon intensity, direct agricultural GHG emissions are forecast to rise by 6%. Livestock expansion will account for 70% of this increase.
- **Trade Dynamics:** By 2034, 22% of calories consumed globally will be traded across borders, underscoring the continued need for rules-based multilateral cooperation to ensure food security and resilience.
- **Prices and Farmers' Livelihoods:** Real agricultural prices will decline modestly, heightening pressure on smallholders to adopt innovative technologies and improve efficiency.
- **Scenario Analysis:** Achieving zero hunger while reducing GHG emissions by 7% is possible with a 15% productivity improvement and broad adoption of emission-reduction technologies.

Major Risks and Uncertainties

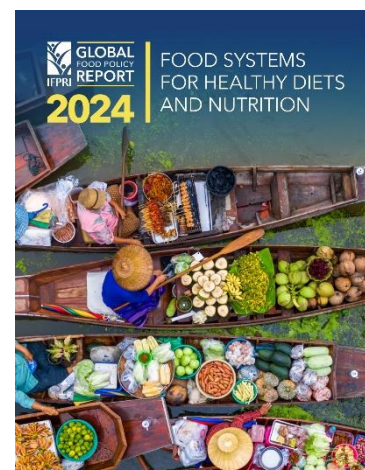
- **Geopolitical Factors:** Conflicts, policy shifts, and trade disputes could reshape production, trade flows, and price stability.
- **Climate Change:** Extreme weather and shifting rainfall patterns threaten yields, with uneven adaptation capacity across regions.
- **Animal Disease Outbreaks:** Events such as African Swine Fever (ASF) or avian influenza can severely disrupt livestock production and trade.
- **Policy Evolution:** Ambitious sustainability policies, biofuel mandates, or protectionist measures could alter market dynamics.
- **Consumer Preferences:** While dietary changes are gradual, growing awareness of health, environment, and animal welfare issues may reshape demand in high-income countries.
- **Input Costs:** Energy and fertilizer prices are expected to stabilize, but geopolitical disruptions could trigger new volatility.

02 THEME: Sustainable Consumption; Others

Global Food Policy Report 2024: Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Nutrition

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) | [Source](#) | [Report](#) |

IFPRI's report examines how food systems can be transformed to deliver healthy, affordable, and sustainable diets globally, addressing persistent malnutrition, rising diet-related noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), and widening inequalities.



- Less than half of the global population consumes diverse, nutrient-rich diets; affordability, accessibility, and desirability remain key barriers.
- Demand-side measures— such as dietary guidelines, consumer awareness campaigns, and food marketing regulations—are essential to encourage healthier consumption.
- Supply-side strategies— including crop diversification, biofortification, fortified foods, and sustainable livestock and fisheries—can expand access to nutrient-rich diets.
- Healthy diets remain unaffordable for 3 billion people; subsidy reform, improved infrastructure, and stronger food environments are critical to reduce costs.
- Governance and policy coherence are needed to align agriculture, health, trade, and environmental objectives while ensuring equity and inclusion.

Building on these findings, the report recommends “multi-duty” interventions that address malnutrition, climate change, and inequality simultaneously; scaling both plant- and animal-source foods within sustainability limits; and redirecting subsidies toward nutritious crops. Regional analyses underscore that solutions must be context-specific, ranging from social protection in Africa to trade and food safety regulations in Latin America. At the global level, coordinated investments, innovative financing, and robust monitoring are essential to track progress. The report further calls for stronger global governance frameworks, alignment with the Kunming–Montreal Biodiversity Framework, and support for the SDG nutrition targets via inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement.

03 THEME: Carbon Market

EU Roadmap towards Nature Credits

European Commission | [Source](#) | [Document](#) |

The European Commission's Roadmap outlines a market-based framework to incentivise private investment in nature-positive actions, complementing public biodiversity funding. Nature credits— units derived from certified, independently verified ecosystem restoration or protection activities— aim to reward stakeholders such as farmers, foresters, fishers, and local communities, generating both ecological and economic benefits. With over 70% of euro area businesses dependent on nature, the initiative seeks to bridge the EU's €65 billion annual biodiversity investment gap by blending

public and private finance. The roadmap proposes high-integrity certification standards, robust governance, and transparent methodologies to ensure credibility and avoid greenwashing. Pilot projects in France, Estonia, and Peru, and collaboration with international partners, will test approaches and foster global alignment. The Commission will establish an expert group, evaluate market supply and demand, and explore seed financing to catalyse early adoption. Nature credits could help Member States meet EU Nature Restoration Regulation targets and Kunming–Montreal Biodiversity Framework commitments, while offering new income streams for rural stakeholders. The 2025–2027 actions focus on building trust, scaling pilot schemes, and integrating nature credits into the EU’s broader sustainable finance architecture.



04 THEME: Climate Smart Agriculture; Sustainable Production

IRRI 2025-2030 Strategy

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) | [Source](#) | [Strategy](#) |



IRRI has launched its 2025–2030 Strategy to transform rice-based agri-food systems through inclusive science, market-driven solutions, and strategic partnerships. Recognizing rice’s role in feeding over 4 billion people and supporting 150 million farmers, the strategy addresses urgent challenges including climate change, resource constraints, persistent inequality, and shifting nutritional needs. It prioritizes three

interconnected goals: **improving nutrition, ensuring a sustainable planet, and promoting inclusive livelihoods**. Key actions include developing climate-resilient and nutrient-enriched rice varieties, advancing sustainable production systems, expanding market-driven supply chains, and accelerating technology transfer through South–South cooperation. The strategy emphasizes integrated delivery—from genetic research and digital tools to policy engagement and value chain interventions—tailored to national contexts in Asia and Africa. Notable initiatives include the ADB–CGIAR Clearinghouse Facility to scale innovations and partnerships with governments to align research with policy priorities. By fostering climate-smart and nature-positive rice systems, IRRI aims to enhance food and nutrition security, bolster rural incomes, and reduce environmental impacts, positioning rice as a catalyst for broader food system transformation.

OPEN DATA

01 THEME: Agrifood system

Climate-Nutrition Evidence Map

Stronger Foundations for Nutrition | [Source](#) |

This platform is an open-access database that compiles research on how climate change affects nutrition and how diets and food systems contribute to climate change. It synthesizes findings from peer-reviewed studies, grey literature, and expert reviews, highlighting evidence pathways such as biodiversity loss, food availability, dietary patterns, and GHG emissions. The platform provides interactive tables for filtering by topic, region, or type of evidence, alongside concise summaries that distil key trends and identify knowledge gaps. It also offers links to related tools, datasets, and publications to facilitate deeper exploration and collaboration among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners. By mapping knowledge across climate and nutrition intersections, the database supports evidence-based decision-making for climate-smart agriculture, sustainable food systems, and public health.

Climate-Nutrition Evidence Dat...

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EVIDENCE

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All resources

	Website/Resource Name	Preview	Type	Purpose/Description (expand to read more)	Link	Creator Org
1	Food Systems and Nutrition Evidence Gap Map		Evidence Gap Map	In the last few years, significant efforts have been made to improve food systems to facilitate better food security and nutrition outcomes. As a result, there is a vast amount of evidence on what works, but navigating the research is complicated, making it difficult for decision-makers to use the evidence. This evidence gap map addresses this challenge by providing an...	https://devguide.marte-evidence-3i-impact.org/egm/food-systems-and-nutrition-	International Initiative for Impact Evaluation
2	Evidence and Gap Map of intersections between climate change and food systems, nutrition, and health		Evidence Gap Map	This Evidence and Gap Map systematically assessed 844 review studies (literature and systematic reviews) and used expert consultants to identify gaps in the evidence around climate change, food systems, nutrition and health. It's purpose is to help decision-makers prioritize gaps in evidence to fill and which research gaps, if filled, would catalyse the most impact.	https://www.aanh2-academy.org/cd-climate-change-egm/	IMMANA
3	FAO Stat		Database	FAOSTAT provides free access to food and agriculture data for over 245 countries and territories and covers all FAO regional groupings from 1961 to the most recent year available.	https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/	FAO
4	The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Interactive Visual		Interactive visual	Interactive visual of the SOFI 2022 report	https://www.fao.org/interactive/s-state-of-food-security-nutrition/en/	FAO
5	Food Systems Dashboard		Dashboard	The Food Systems Dashboard combines data from multiple sources to give users a complete view of food systems. Users can compare components of food systems across countries and regions. They can also identify and prioritize ways to sustainably improve diets and nutrition in their food systems.	https://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org	FAO, GAIN, Johns Hopkins University
6	Food Security & Climate Change (visualizer)		Interactive visual	This website allows you to explore how different scenarios of global greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change could change the geography of food insecurity in	https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/food-insecurity/	World Food Programme, Met Office Hadley Center

9 resources

02 THEME: Climate Smart and Net-Zero Toolkit; Climate Action Plans and Programs

Coolfood Platform

World Resource Institute (WRI) | [Source](#) |

coolfood



≡ Coolfood is a global initiative that empowers organizations to reduce the climate impact of the food they serve through plant-rich diets and science-backed strategies. The Coolfood Business portal supports food service providers to take tangible action—either by joining the Coolfood Pledge, which commits them to cutting food-related GHG emissions by 25% by 2030

using a peer-reviewed Coolfood Calculator and strategic planning playbook, or by adopting Coolfood Meals, which are menu items verified to meet low-carbon emission thresholds and nutritional standards. The Resources section offers practical tools, including the Food Service Playbook, Quick Start Guide, insight reports, and publications that translate research into actionable solutions. Through its pledge, meal certification, and resource-rich approach, Coolfood bridges rigorous science and real-world implementation, helping organizations engage diners, hit sustainability targets, and promote climate-smart food systems—all while making the choice deliciously simple.

EVENT

01

International Conference on Natural Science and Environment (ICNSE – 2026)January 10-11, 2026 | In-person | Manama, Bahrain | [Source](#) |

Organized by the International Institute of Engineers and Researchers (IIER), ICNSE 2026 is a premier annual forum



that brings together researchers, engineers, and scientists from diverse disciplines to share insights and present technological advances in natural sciences and environmental studies. The conference welcomes submissions on topics such as atmospheric sciences, biology, chemistry, computer science, environmental dynamics, climate change, and carbon capture. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings with assigned Crossref DOIs and may also be considered for publication in journals indexed by Scopus, Web of Science, SCI, EI, and Google Scholar. Key deadlines include early-bird registration by 26 November 2025 and paper submission by 26 December 2025.

02

The 8th International Conference on Food and Applied Bioscience (FAB 2026)February 5-6, 2026 | In-person | Chiang Mai, Thailand | [Source](#) |

FAB 2026, themed “The Food Singularity: Converging Sustainable AgriTech to Frontier Food Era,” serves as a global platform uniting academics, researchers,

industry professionals, and policymakers to discuss innovations in food science and applied bioscience. Its scientific program includes sessions on nutrition and health, sustainable processing, food innovation, microbiology and safety, biomanufacturing, consumer insights, and sustainable food systems. The abstract submission deadline is 17 October 2025, and the registration deadline is 9 January 2026.

03

The 70th Annual Conference of the Australasian Agricultural & Resource Economics Society (AARES 2026)

 February 9-13, 2026 | In-person | Adelaide, Australia | [Source](#) |

AARES 2026 — the “Platinum Jubilee” edition — will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 11–13 February 2026, with a pre-conference Early Career Professionals Day on 9 February, including networking activities. The conference theme is “Transformations in Energy, Agri-Food and Environmental Systems.” Submissions are open until 3 October 2025, and the final registration deadline for participation is 11 February 2026.



04

The 25th International Farm Management Congress (IFMA 25)

 February 22-27, 2026 | In-person | Rosario, Argentina | [Source](#) |


IFMA 25, themed “*Empowering the Future of Agriculture*,” will be hosted by the International Farm Management Association in partnership with Austral University’s Rosario Campus. This biennial global forum will bring together farmers, researchers, advisors, policymakers, and industry

leaders to explore innovative solutions for sustainable farming, enterprise resilience, and technological advances in productivity. The program will feature expert presentations, concurrent sessions, farm and agribusiness tours, a “Next Gens” youth program, and social networking opportunities. The Call for Submissions is open until 15 September 2025, inviting contributions under four sub-themes: *Environmentally Friendly*, *Competitive and Economically Viable*, *Socially Responsible*, and *Innovative, Smart and Digital*.

05

IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance Conference 2026

 April 28-30, 2026 | Hybrid | Frick, Switzerland | [Source](#) |

This Conference, themed “Organic animal husbandry: a role model for the future of livestock?”, will take place 28–30 April 2026 at the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL). The three-day event will bring together practitioners, researchers, policymakers, business, and consumers to address global debates on sustainable livestock systems. Using a discussion-based format, it invites essays and poster contributions from both scientists and non-scientists, aiming to shape bold declarations and roadmaps for the future of global animal husbandry. The submission deadline is 15 September 2025, and registration closes on 31 January 2026.

