



Civil Society Statement to the G20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting
(Hyderabad, India, 17 June 2023)

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**Urgent Call to the G20:
Ensuring Food Security and Ending Hunger through
Small-scale Farmer Empowerment**

We, as representatives of civil society organizations and concerned citizens from around the world, both G20 and non-G20 countries, urgently appeal to the G20 Agriculture Ministers meeting at Hyderabad, India on 17 June 2023 to consider the policy recommendations in its policy discussion and development to tackle the pressing challenges related to agriculture.

International community has been facing the crisis and challenges such as impoverishment, inequality, food and energy crisis, climate change, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The world is grappling with a growing food and energy crisis, with rising prices, scarcity, and inadequate access to nutritious food and sustainable energy sources as consequence of the war in Ukraine.

The devastating impacts of climate change are increasingly evident, posing significant threats to ecosystems specially agriculture, livelihoods, and the well-being of future generations as illustrated by numerous disasters. The urgency of the climate crisis demands bold and ambitious actions.

We urge the G20 to lead by example and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase investments in renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure. Furthermore, the G20 must reaffirm its commitment to the SDGs and develop comprehensive strategies to achieve them by 2030, leaving no goal behind.

Addressing these interrelated challenges requires global solidarity, cooperation, and accountability. The time for action is now, and failure to act decisively will have severe consequences for the well-being of people and the planet.

The G20, as the premier forum for international economic cooperation, has a unique responsibility to lead the way. We call upon G20 leaders to strengthen international institutions, promote multilateralism, and engage in transparent and inclusive decision-making processes. Civil society organizations, grassroots movements, and marginalized communities must be actively involved in shaping policies and actions that affect their lives.

We call upon the G20 Ministers and policy makers on agriculture and food to take into account the policy recommendations below from CSO and stake-holders perspective in your policy development and initiatives for a just and sustainable future for all.

1) Ensuring Food Security and Ending Hunger:

We emphasize the need for G20 member countries to prioritize food and nutrition security and work towards ending hunger. We call for increased investment in small-scale agriculture, sustainable farming practices, and equitable access to resources and markets.

2) Small-scale Farmer Empowerment:

We stress the importance of empowering small-scale farmers, particularly women and marginalized groups. We advocate for policies that support farmers' organizing, that provide access to land, credit, technology, and market opportunities, as well as support for farmer-led initiatives and sustainable agricultural practices, including researches and extension services.

3) Empowerment of Small-scale farmers in the Value-Chain:

Farmers' organizations and agri-cooperatives are the biggest investors in agriculture. We call for greater investments in strengthening their organizations, their economic initiatives, and develop their capacities to be empowered in the value-chain. We demand that digital agriculture respond to the needs and realities of small-scale farmers' organizations.

4) Agroecology and Sustainable Farming:

Many promote agroecology and sustainable farming practices as a means to transform agriculture and food systems and address climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. We urge the G20 to support and promote regenerative and nature-based farming systems that enhance resilience, reduce chemical inputs, and protect ecosystems.

5) Trade and Market Access:

We call for fair and equitable international trade policies that do not undermine the interests of small-scale farmers and agricultural communities. We demand the elimination of trade barriers, reduction of agricultural subsidies in developed countries, and protection of farmers' rights to save and exchange seeds.

6) Addressing Climate Change and Resilience:

We highlight the urgent need to address climate change impacts on agriculture and enhance the resilience of farming communities. We advocate for climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable water management, and adaptation strategies that support farmers in coping with climate-related risks and building long-term resilience.

7) Transparent and Inclusive Decision-Making:

We emphasize the importance of transparent and inclusive decision-making processes within the G20, ensuring the meaningful participation of civil society organizations and small-scale farmers' organizations. We call for the inclusion of diverse perspectives, local knowledge, and traditional farming practices in policy discussions and decision-making.

8) Tackling Food Loss and Waste:

We stress the need for the G20 to address the issue of food loss and waste throughout the agricultural value chain. We advocate for measures to reduce post-harvest losses, improve storage and transportation infrastructure, and promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

PEOPLES' 20 is a global network and initiative comprising civil society actors and organizations that voluntarily engage with the G20 summit and related processes. It was officially launched on March 1, 2023, following a series of consultation meetings among CSOs in India and internationally who have been actively involved with the G20 since 2010.

As a coalition of civil society organizations, **PEOPLES' 20** strives to ensure that the voices of marginalized and excluded communities and peoples are heard and reflected in international decision-making processes within the G20.

PEOPLES' 20 aims to engage with various stakeholder groups of the G20, such as CSOs, labor organizations, think tanks, women's groups, and youth in solidarity with other like-minded CSOs at other inter-governmental processes including the UN, G7 and BRICS.

PEOPLES' 20 welcomes the participation and contributions of any civil society actors who are willing to agree and work collaboratively towards achieving the mission and goals.

- To join bit.ly/JoinPEOPLES20
- Contact Peoples20g20summit@gmail.com
- Website [Http://PEOPLES20.org](http://PEOPLES20.org) (under construction)

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