World Food Programme (WFP)

Topic:
Enhancing Food Security through Climate-Resilient Agriculture: Strategies for Supporting Smallholder Farmers in Adapting to Climate Change

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I. Quorum

-Argentina
-Bangladesh
-Brazil
-Canada
-China
-Colombia
-Egypt
-Ethiopia
-Ghana
-India
-Indonesia
-Kenya
-Malaysia
-Mexico
-Morocco
-Nepal
-Nigeria
-Pakistan
-Peru
-Philiphines
-South Africa
-Sri Lanka
-Tanzania
-Thailand
-Uganda
-United States
-Vietnam

II. Committee Background

World Food Program, also called WFP, was formally constituted on December 19, 1961, after an important conference held in 1960 by the Food and Agriculture Organization based on which its objective was

established. With the launch of its first major development intervention, this organization began extensive efforts directed at addressing the problems of malnutrition and starvation in Sudan. The World Food Program (WFP) is an essential UN agency now unraveling itself as the largest humanitarian organization devoted to saving lives in desperate situations, Otherwise, it is applying multiple assistance modalities to bolster communities concerning/food insecurity and self-sufficiency in the long run.

The World Food Program plays a very important role in the global fight against hunger by increasing food security and providing immediate food aid in countries affected by disaster or conflict. In emergencies such as Syria, Yemen, or Ukraine, or places affected by natural disasters, the WFP will move quickly to get vital food and nutritional assistance to its most vulnerable populations. Its school feeding initiatives also improve educational results while fighting malnutrition in children, increasing the chances of a better future for youth.

In addition, its focus on malnutrition affecting at-risk populations such as children and pregnant women improves health outcomes and attacks other health issues. InnoFortress offers designed services for backup power for institutions and homes in non-grid areas through its online-based marketplace for renewable energy technologies and services in Nigeria. Besides offering emergency aid, WFP is engaged in the continuous promotion of communities' resilience concerning environmental changes and economic shocks.

The development of sustainable farming practices and education for communities in this regard is expected to enable these communities to escape the vicious cycle of poverty. By allowing beneficiaries to purchase necessary items, cash-based transfer programs also stimulate local

economic development. To improve awareness and engender the necessary policy action, the WFP is in collaboration with governments and organizations across the world, advocating for food security measures. The World Food Program received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020 for its outstanding work in philanthropy and its commitment to building a world of peace and safety.

III. History of Topic

Climate-smart agriculture is being adopted worldwide by small-scale farmers who are transitioning away from traditional, production-oriented methods of farming toward more adaptive and sustainable ways of doing things. The Green Revolution in the middle of the 20th century, which relied on chemical inputs and hybrid varieties for the majority, focused all agricultural policies towards higher crop production yield. Although it was successful in increasing food production, the approach often causes damage to ecological sustainability, leaving small farmers without the necessary resources.

Those increasingly observable impacts of climate change caused most countries to begin shifting their agricultural policies toward increasing resilience to drought, flood, and temperature changes during the late 20th century.

International initiatives, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, are now working together by their efforts for sustainable strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and by adapting to the changes in climate impacts. Institutions like the FAO and WFP are mandated with developing programs to facilitate insurance, whether weather-based or not, and promote environmentally friendly crop production technologies for small-scale farmers.

The resource constraints led to a very poor spread of the programs in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, although there has been some progress, thus making it imperative now to further interventions for making small-scale farmers adapt and mitigate climate changes, thereby ensuring global food security.

The different nations have now instituted all kinds of strategies to ensure that climate-resilient farming practices, especially those related to food security, have been implemented mostly on the small-scale farmers who have fallen victim to changing trends in climate. These include developing rules, allocating resources, improving skills, and adopting new technology. It is already a part of many countries' internal policies, which address soil health, eco-friendly strategies, and responsible land use, in addition to global treaties like the Paris Agreement. Farmers might potentially finance adaptive technology by getting support from appropriate funding and working with institutions such as the World Bank.

Farmers should also be trained and educated to adopt sustainable techniques such as harvesting water and crop rotations. More financial assets have been allocated to viewing crop varieties that can withstand the impact of climate change and improving water system strategies. To make such food security-enhancing efforts through climate-resilient agriculture, the WFP has undertaken some activities that support small-scale farmers in making some changes towards adaptation to climate change. Most especially for farmers who are exposed to severe weather conditions, WFP combines emergency food assistance with strategies to extend long-term assets.

The Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) program provides food assistance and cash benefits for local interventions that improve agricultural investments, including irrigation systems and soil improvement. The R4 Rural Resilience

Initiative provides farmers with risk management instruments such as weather-indexed insurance to safeguard their financial investments in climate-resilient practices. Besides, the WFP provides climate information services, such as accurate forecasts and growth alerts, to help farmers make well-informed decisions. In addition, WFP promotes climate-smart agriculture, including crop diversification and eco-friendly land practices, providing cash and vouchers to enable farmers to buy their requirements. These measures strengthen agricultural systems to assuage both immediate and critical feeding demands, thus increasing stability and flexibility in regions severely affected by climate change.

Climate-smart agriculture is replacing traditional methods as small-scale farmers increasingly adopt sustainable practices to get along with climate change. The Green Revolt of the mid-20th century left many farmers broke because it prioritized chemical-based production over sustainability. As climate change intensifies, resilience to issues like drought has become a more significant priority in global strategies, thanks to agreements like the Paris

Agreement. Organizations such as the FAO and WFP provide weather-related assistance, training, and protection to help farmers adapt. While WFP initiatives such as Food Assistance for Assets and the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative combine short-term aid with long-term support, their overall implementation is hampered by a lack of funding, highlighting the need for ongoing assistance to ensure food security.

IV. Topic Information

Smallholder farmers produce about seventy percent of food consumed globally, and they are becoming increasingly vulnerable to risks arising from climate change- anomalous weather patterns, dry seasons, and floodings. Climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) hinges heavily on crop rotation, drought-resistant crops, efficient water systems, and soil

conservation, which solves those problems. Such practices secure food for millions of people by stabilizing yields or reducing their vulnerability while safeguarding unique resources. The gross limitation on the comprehensive range of CRA services is unreformed structure, lack of expansion services, and limited access to climate-smart inputs.

Other measures are part of the efforts targeted at helping smallholder farmers, like International programs such as the World Food Programme's (WFP) Rural Resilience Activity and Nourishment Help for Resources, which promote adaptive practices, namely, financial instruments, community ventures, and preparation. Governments and NGOs offer resource inputs such as climate data, climate-resilient seeds, and workshops for capacity-building to improve adaptive capacities. Coordination of these approaches into local policies and farming frameworks can indeed bring great demonstration strength and efficiency, as shown in such successful initiatives in various countries like Ethiopia and Kenya.

They should be coordinated and bunched to scale these initiatives. While international development agencies provide financial and technical assistance, governments can provide incentives through funding set-asides and cost-sharing to promote CRA. Systemic barriers such as poverty and the need for education must continue to be addressed if long-term gains are to be achieved in spite of climate difficulties.

Because of this, smallholder farmers in many localities like Ethiopia are seriously challenged by climate change and are coming up with ways of trying to cope with climate change impacts. Farmers make use of both the past preventative measures such as early planting, pay enhancement, water management, and use of drought-tolerant seeds, and the final measures, such as lowering charges, borrowing, selling assets, or going for work.

Despite all their attempts, these rural agri-culturists face constraints such as poor access to climate information, poor training and extension services, governance failures, poverty, and market constraints. Factors such as

education, access to information, and networks that enhance the shift to improved effective coping strategies, while discouraging elements include advanced age, poor infrastructure, and market restrictions. There is thus a clear indication of the relevance of proper policies and better avenues of accessing resources and support for enhancing farmers' adaptive capacities.

V. Current Issues

Kenya:

It is a reality that climate change threatens agricultural productivity the same way as smallholders in Western Kenya practicing rain-fed farming. Apart from their acute recognition of the impact that the climate change has brought about, including unpredictable weather and extremely severe droughts, smallholder farmers also suffer challenges due to lack of finances, limited access to training, and poor availability of tools or information. A study of 300 households identified that education, size of the farm, remittance received, and weather updates enabled them to better adapt to the conditions created by the environment.

There are, moreover, community and site-related barriers that discourage farmers from changing practices and speak to the need to improve collective community infrastructures. With its agricultural sector supporting 80% of the country and making up close to half of the economy, this indeed alarming strain is produced by climate change in Kenya. The government is doing the NCCRS so that, further down the line, all the long-term measures, such as training and financial aid, will be implemented. Unfortunately, such measures do not unravel the whole puzzle because poverty, unaffordable costs of farming, and weak infrastructure continue to characterize Kenya's society. Just the same, these kinds of policy inventions are a necessity in the enabling environment that will later improve barriers to adaptation, strengthen institutions, as well

as recognizing ideas and needs from smallholder farmers in decision-making related to the outcome. In the end, this could go a long way in securing better smallholder farmers in Kenya to ensure food security and sustainable agriculture.

Ethiopia:

For smallholder farmers in regions such as Ethiopia, climate change has posed adverse effects on their livelihoods and food security. In response, these farmers incorporate anticipatory strategies to deploy early planting, diversify income sources, use drought-resistant seeds, and even engage in reactive strategies, such as reducing expenditure and borrowing and selling assets. However, these farmers are hindered by a lack of access to weather information, a lack of training, inefficient institutions, and poverty. Education, institutional support, and access to information enhance resilience, whereas issues such as an old population and poor infrastructure make adaptation difficult. This study underscores the need for tailor-made policies and resource access for these farmers.

All these are parts of Ethiopia's actions to address building climate resilience in agriculture, and they are complemented by sound practices such as water harvesting, agroforestry, and soil conservation. Therefore, instructions could be included for using drought-resistant seeds, as well as more training involved in climate risk management and sustainable techniques. The use of improved weather forecasting and information-sharing platforms has been helpful for farmers to make proper decisions about their agricultural engagements. Also, policy frameworks addressing the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy shall be directing climate resilience towards national agricultural policies. Community projects, as well as sufficient resources that would reduce vulnerability, have also enjoyed safety nets like the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP). Challenges in infrastructure and funding still require sustained investment and global collaboration despite all the above.

Nigeria:

So much has been viscerally felt of climatic impacts lately in Nigeria by smallholder farmers as agriculture has always been and remains the backbone of their livelihood. Erratic weather patterns, such as fickle rainfall and prolonged drought periods, affect planting schedules and reduce yields. Increasing desert encroachment and soil degradation in Northern

Nigeria has rendered less land available for cultivation and tends to endanger staple crops like millet and sorghum. Southern Nigeria, on the other hand, has also lately been receiving syrupy rainfall, which drowns crops and displaces farming communities while contaminating the once-useful freshwater sources. Also, globally, pest and disease loads from climate change are rapidly increasing, thus diminishing agricultural productivity and food security.

The availability of climate-resilient tools in terms of drought-resistant varieties, best irrigation practices, and weather information is limited to constrains the many adaptations smallholder farmers can make to these hazards. They suffer from a high dependency on meager government support and weak extension services, which then results in their poor training in sustainable practices. Poor infrastructural facilities, such as inadequate road networks and market facilities, complicate the farmers' inability to sell their produce or access inputs. Such interventions as capacity building, improved agricultural policies, and investments in climate-smart technologies demand targeted action to render the smallholder farmers in Nigeria.

VI. UN Actions

The United Nations has put in place various programs to enhance the adaptation of smallholder farmers to climate change, mostly through the

Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Such organizations advocate climate-smart agriculture by providing different areas of technical assistance, access to climate-resilient seeds, and support for sustainable farming practices. For instance, the FAO's Climate-Smart Agriculture framework helps equip farmers with tools to enhance productivity with minimum impacts on the environment.

In addition, the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) plays an indispensable role in enhancing the capacities and resilience of smallholder farmers. It trains them in climate risk management, supports them in weather-based insurance schemes, and facilitates access to market infrastructure to provide stable incomes. The WFP has also started specific projects aimed at improving food security, like drought-resistant crops and innovative irrigation systems for vulnerable regions.

Finally, the United Nations has established such international cooperation in terms of mitigating climate change effects on agriculture, for example, by having global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thus, by adopting these platforms into national policies, the UN encourages countries to start integrating smallholder farmers into their climate adaptation strategies. Partnerships and mobilization of financing will also ensure that smallholder farmers are included in the safety net portion aimed at providing safety nets to people in the livelihoods of food security on a global level and generally securing livelihoods as conditions change.

VII. Conclusion

Through programs of its agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations supports smallholder farmers in climate change adaptation. FAO's Climate-Smart Agriculture flagship initiative provides farmers with

technical assistance, resilient seeds to cope with changes in climate, and training in sustainable farming practices. WFP uses immediate assistance, long-term resilience, and increasing projects as Food Assistance for Assets and the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative, which offer risk management instruments as well as enhance agricultural infrastructure.

Global frameworks like the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) now bring all smallholder farmers into the orbit of activities aimed at climate adaptation. The UN will thus ensure that smallholder farmers become advocates of strong partnerships, mobilize resources, and innovate in practice so that their livelihoods will be secured and the world food supply made increasingly available to all despite worsening climate threats. Unfortunately, though, the resources are few for investment and the system barriers are such that pressure for investment and collaboration must continue.

VIII. Guiding Questions

1. What historical shifts in agricultural practices, such as the Green Revolution, have influenced current challenges in food security and sustainability?
2. How have global agreements like the Paris Agreement shaped the focus on climate-resilient agriculture for smallholder farmers?
3. What economic and policy-based barriers have historically prevented smallholder farmers from accessing climate-resilient technologies?
4. How has climate change disproportionately affected smallholder farmers in different regions?

5. What are the social and economic impacts of food insecurity on vulnerable populations, including women and children, in disaster-affected regions?
6. How does poor infrastructure, such as inadequate roads and market
7. access, compound the challenges faced by smallholder farmers?
8. To what extent have WFP initiatives, such as the R4 Rural Resilience
9. Initiative and Food Assistance for Assets, achieved their goals in promoting food security and resilience?
10. How effective are international frameworks like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in supporting smallholder farmers' adaptation to climate change?
11. What innovative technologies or farming techniques could smallholder farmers adopt to increase resilience against climate-related risks?
12. How can governments, international organizations, and NGOs collaborate to scale up successful climate-smart agricultural practices in resource-constrained areas?

IX. Reserences

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