OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 26 August 2021 10:30 GMT -04:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Diálogo Regional Independiente de la Plataforma de Acción Climática en Agricultura de Latinoamérica y el Caribe
CONVENED BY	PLACA Secretariat
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/38093/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

	0-18		19-30	82	31-50	16	51-65	2	66-80		80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

53	Male	47	Female		Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

19	Agriculture/crops	2	Education		Health care
3	Fish and aquaculture	2	Communication		Nutrition
8	Livestock		Food processing	52	National or local government
4	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
10	Environment and ecology		Food industry		Industrial
	Trade and commerce		Financial Services		Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

	Small/medium enterprise/artisan		Workers and trade union
	Large national business		Member of Parliament
	Multi-national corporation		Local authority
	Small-scale farmer		Government and national institution
	Medium-scale farmer		Regional economic community
	Large-scale farmer		United Nations
	Local Non-Governmental Organization		International financial institution
	International Non-Governmental Organization		Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
	Indigenous People		Consumer group
	Science and academia		Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

The regional dialogue was organized along with the coordinators and members of the 4 Thematic Working Groups of PLACA, which are professionals from 10 countries of the LAC region. This organizing team selected a group of key stakeholders from 15 countries, from different backgrounds and sectors. The overall objective of the event was to promote a safe space for the public and private sector, research institutes, universities, farmers' organizations, producers, and extensionists from Latin America and the Caribbean to share their experiences in the agricultural sector and food systems at the subnational, national or regional level, considering their impacts, and finding new ways to unite in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). During the event, the facilitators and notetakers promote the dialogue in the break-out room sesión and conduct the conversation among the panelist and participants to ensure inclusivity and respect.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The overall organization represented a joint effort from the members of PLACA and PLACA Secretariat. The process to define each of the themes of the breakout rooms was define by each of its group members during previous meetings. The process was inclusive and all its members contribute to the definitions of the specific objective of each session and also in the design of the guide questions. Also, all the members look for key stakeholders outside their institutions to ensure a richer discussion during the event. This was accomplished, as all the panelists that attended the regional dialogue were from the public and private sector, research institutes, universities, farmers' organizations, producers, and extensionists from Latin America and the Caribbean. This process promoted trust and increase motivation within the groups of PLACA, and the event had a very active and interesting testimonial from both the panelist and the participants, as they felt they could express their views or build on what the person before.

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

✓ **Yes** **No**

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The regional dialogue focus to promote a space for public and private sector actors, research institutes, universities, farmers' organizations, producers, and extensionists from Latin America and the Caribbean to share their experiences in the agricultural sector and food systems at the subnational, national or regional level, considering their impacts, and finding new ways to unite in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
During the first part of the event, there was a brief presentation about how to achieve balance in LAC agri-food systems: addressing the climate crisis while fighting poverty, combating hunger and malnutrition, and preserving resilient ecosystems. Then, four break-out rooms were created around the following topics: a) Public Policies in the context of adaptation and mitigation of climate change (TGW1 and TWG2); b) Knowledge transfer and good practices (focus on extensionists and producers) /TWG3; c) Research, development, and technological innovation (TWG4).
After the group discussions, participants had the opportunity to present their a resume in the plenary, in order to show possible future pathways and provide concrete lines of action.
After the plenary, the Presidency of PLACA emphasized that the global problem of climate change is not foreign to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Local impacts require their own solutions, as well as the identification of the regional space as a spill-over of knowledge to reduce climate vulnerability. PLACA is an opportunity to generate regional synergy and be able to talk about local impacts, as well as how countries can enrich and collaborate with each other through science, innovation, and research. He emphasized strengthening the capacity for climate action in agriculture.

ACTION TRACKS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
✓	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
✓	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

	Finance	✓	Policy
✓	Innovation	✓	Data & Evidence
	Human rights	✓	Governance
	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		✓	Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

1.TWG1 and TWG2 > According to the experiences consulted, the focus is on agriculture organic production, economic efficiency, as well as the reduction of environmental impacts. Another relevant aspect is the use of technology in soil protection practices, low carbon emission strategies, and the importance of NAMAs to promote the adoption of technologies. The importance of respecting the specific characteristics of the countries on a technical and scientific basis, as well as economic and productive efficiency, was emphasized.
The importance of technical assistance and dialogue with the agricultural and environmental sectors was key. It was also mentioned that each country has its own approved public policies related to the environment and agriculture. Finally, it is important to take into account food security and sovereignty, limited resources to implement climate actions, the resistance of producers to change adopted practices, as well as investment in research. Climate management should be one of the factors to be taken into account in the climate agenda, considering the climate agenda as a whole and not only mitigation; conservation and adaptation are more important.
2. At the TWG3 extensionists' roundtable, it was noted that, in terms of who has benefited from adaptation and mitigation practices in the region to address climate change, it has benefited the producer family. Agroecological practices with local knowledge have been captured. When discussing the results and/or impacts of the implementation of these practices, they focus on the fact that they have had to face the chemical degradation of soils. In the coastal drylands of the O'Higgins region in Chile, the adaptation to water deficit conditions was noted. Work has been done on soil water conservation. Regarding key actors for the implementation of these practices, in the case of Mexico, there is the integration of multiple actors. In the case of Chile, they highlighted the role of PRODESAL, the central axis for reaching farmers. Finally, in terms of constraints, they suggested learning by doing with others, co-construction with local actors with the support of science. In short, it is important for farmers to incorporate the use of technologies.
The producers' roundtable of TWG3 addressed the different practices implemented in agriculture. There were participants from Guatemala, Argentina, Chile, and Mexico. It was discussed that there are several practices that make up a strategy. Water management, agrosilvopastoral management, aspects of dynamic bio-agriculture, seeds, and plants that adapt to climate variability were highlighted. In turn, the importance of linking agricultural practices and the community with other schools and markets, as well as with the final consumer. Demonstration of practices is important. The involvement of a larger network of technicians from research institutions, markets, schools, among others, was mentioned as a factor in the success of these practices to mitigate climate change in agriculture. Finally, it was mentioned that these practices should be low-cost and adaptable to different situations. Finally, with regard to the network of actors, it was identified that the reaction among actors is key to a successful strategy: producers, professionals or extensionists, governmental and research institutions, among others.
3. TWG4 indicated that the research experiences in the agriculture and livestock areas are the search for species that are resistant to arid conditions. Climate variability is being incorporated into aspects of agriculture and livestock. At the same time, other elements are being sought to adapt, such as the use of microorganisms to promote the resistance of species to water stress and pests. Another important element is the search for mechanisms to add value to products. On the other hand, in aquaculture and agriculture, it was mentioned that climate variability should be considered in the management of resources. The challenges are to face the problem from an intersectoral point of view, to incorporate the topic from a local point of view, and how to disseminate research results to interested persons (farmers).

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KEYWORDS

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		✓	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/4

Public Policies in the context of adaptation and mitigation of climate change (TGW1 and TWG2)
The objective of this dialogue session was to learn about what is being done in terms of public policies related to adaptation in agriculture in the context of climate change and climate scenarios. The questions posed to the panelists were as follows:
1. In your country, what type of agricultural production practices and measures to increase adaptive capacity are being successfully adopted by producers. What mechanisms are being used for their extension and generalization?
2. In your opinion, what are the immediate challenges that need to be addressed in terms of public policies to deal with the impacts of climate change on agriculture? Why?
Juan Mancebo (Ministry of Agriculture, Dominican Republic), indicated that the focus is on organic agriculture (banana, coffee, and mango production, together with zero-tillage actions). There is an agreement between the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the National Institute of Water Resources for the recovery of degraded soils. In turn, Juan Torres (Universidad Agraria La Molina, Peru) stated that there are two scenarios, 1) at a macro level: referred to climate change policies (National Adaptation Plan to Climate Change) and Plan to Combat Desertification; 2) at a micro-level: that of farmers' daily life (farmers with ancestral capacity and adaptive experience regarding climate variability). However, there is a lack of capacity to adapt to climate change. Finally, there is an explicit adaptation given by public policy and an implicit adaptation given by experience. Finally, Mauricio Chacón (MAGA, Costa Rica) indicated that the country has increased its forest cover from 30% to 52% of the territory, as well as actions to make productive and environmental variables compatible. Costa Rica has developed a strategy to implement adaptation actions through the NAMAs program; however, it is not the only strategy. There are currently two (2) NAMAs under implementation and three (3) NAMAs under design.
About to the second question, the representative of the Dominican Republic emphasized that the challenges that exist have to do with training and awareness (change of behavior among farmers), incorporation of technologies, investment in agricultural research and development (new cultural processes, varieties, and species). The representative of Peru mentioned that there must be a strategy for food sovereignty and security. Finally, the representative of Costa Rica stressed that the challenge is to understand that the agricultural sector has a wide range of issues, including climate change, which must be made compatible with other elements in agricultural production. The objective, therefore, is sustainable development - in agriculture - that is compatible with the climate.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/4

b) Knowledge transfer and good practices (focus on extensionists) /TWG3
The objective of this dialogue session was: i) to gather perceptions of the attendees of good practices in Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (TARE) in climate change and ii) to gather successful experiences.
The questions to the table of extensionists were the following:
1. What are the results and/or impacts of the application of agricultural and livestock practices?
2. Who has benefited from these practices?
3. What factors do you think may hinder the adoption of these practices?
4. Has collaboration with other participants or stakeholders been important for the implementation of the practices?
● Eloy Fernández (Sustainable Mixteca Project, Mexico), points out that the implementation of good practices has benefited the producer family (with more income, with production in shifts, with greater job stability, as agribusinesses). They have also worked to protect the environment, with sustainable production that benefits all stakeholders.
● María Paz Martínez (INIA TAMEL AIKE, Chile), with good management of Sphagnum moss, has contributed to lower CO2 emissions; otherwise, it presents a great contribution to climate change (when there is poor management of peatlands). One of the relevant aspects is that local families have been integrated (with less intervention from external actors), to the benefit of the families directly related to these resources. Trails have been integrated that has contributed to educating about the good management of these peatlands.
● Sigrid Vargas (INIA, Chile), linked to organic production, has benefited small farmers, under the framework of a participatory farmer-consultant model with agroecological practices; with local knowledge. The work has focused on vegetables and the production of some berries. It has managed to be independent of external inputs. With practices such as the incorporation of residues, the carbon footprint has been reduced, with soils that are more resilient to climate change, especially in the central-southern zone (near the 40°S parallel). There was rescue of genetic resources, also benefiting seed savers.
● Regarding the results and/or impacts of the application of practices that have been implemented, Mexico's experience highlights that in the semi-arid zone in the south of the country is related to facing chemical degradation of soils, practices have been promoted linked to soil stabilization, crop rotation, use of bio-inputs, with an increase in microfauna, especially for the cultivation of corn (a staple crop for this region). This has allowed the increase of organic carbon in-depth and concentration in soils. A relevant achievement has been self-sufficiency, with the availability of corn all year round; with a community organization, with collective work of mutual help.
● Cristian Rodrigo Aguirre (INIA, Chile) mentions the adaptation to water deficit conditions in the coastal drylands of the O'Higgins region. Work has been done with grasses and legumes in areas with low rainfall (no more than 200 mm per year approximately). The soil has been managed with conservation practices to increase its water storage capacity. Complementary forage production has been achieved and farmers are being encouraged to convert their production from oats to triticale due to its good results in yields in this area. In Chile, in irrigated areas in this same region, agroecological management is being carried out, that is, a transformation from conventional to agroecological management, under the principles of this technique and recycling. The incorporation of natural fertilizers has been achieved, with flower bands that have allowed biological control, with natural enemies.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/4

The questions to the table of producers were the following:
1. What practices do you apply to make your agricultural activity adaptable/resilient to climate change?
2. Why do you think these practices have been successful and would you recommend them?
3. Has collaboration with other participants or stakeholders been important for the implementation of the practices?
● Regarding the practices implemented to mitigate climate change in agriculture, the members stated that the practices are part of a strategy to be successful given the conditions of climate change. The practices that stood out were: 1) construction of ponds for fish production, backyard poultry, and corrals, 2) harvesting rainwater, using it for drip irrigation (for times of drought), 3) agrosilvopastoral management with extensive cattle raising, promoting reforestation with native trees in the north of Salta-Argentina in association with pasture. Animal mortality was reduced due to the lack of available feed due to climate change. Drought is combated by taking advantage of the shade of the trees, and humidity is retained with the pasture. In addition, with the shade, the animals are less stressed by high temperatures, 4) planting vegetables and grain without using agrochemicals. With this, food was produced for the farm, 5) reforestation programs, with native trees, in conjunction with research and educational institutions, 6) sustainable production (biodynamic agriculture), and 7) water management, native trees, rustic greenhouses with lower cost, to manage variability in climate, water management, and water catchment. Produce seeds and native plants that are adapted to climate variability.
Finally, regarding the keys to the success of these practices, they highlighted: 1) awareness process, that the farmer understands that there is a strong dependency and the conditions of agriculture cannot continue the way it has been carried out, given the conditions of climate and market change, 2) demonstration, it is necessary that the farmer and rancher see that sustainable production is a better option and generates more profits, 3) involve the value network by shortening it, specifically encouraging the final consumer by shortening the chain and thus the intermediation reducing the cost of products and increasing the economic benefit for the producer, as well as for the consumer. The above through physical spaces where these products can be found; for example, fairs, media, etc., and 4) linkage, with the community, government institutions, schools, families, and markets (local consumer).
● Participants concluded that for practices to be most effective, they must be low-cost and adaptable to any situation. Regarding the network of actors, it was identified that the reaction between actors is key to a successful strategy: producers, professionals or extensionists, governmental and research institutions, among others.

ACTION TRACKS

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/4

The objective of the research session was: i) to learn about their experiences (good or bad) and how the research institutes have exchanged or transferred knowledge to the farmer, ii) what projects are currently under development and whether they are in line with current (critical) problems and iii) what expectations they have regarding research applied to agriculture. The questions posed to the panelists were as follows:
1. what are your previous experiences and current research projects that can be converted into knowledge transfer and solutions to current problems for farmers with a focus on the particular vulnerability of agriculture?
2. What do you consider to be the future trends and challenges in applied research on the impacts of climate change with a focus on the particular vulnerability of agriculture?
- Francisco Arreguín Sánchez (CICIMAR - Mexico) pointed out that fishing is the only branch of primary production that does not require inputs. The environmental conditions had been relatively stable until a few years ago; since 1980 there has been a change in the climate regime, which has had repercussions on the productivity of marine ecosystems.
- Isaac Andrés Azuz Adeath (CETYS - Mexico) emphasized that he studies the relationship between agricultural production in the coastal region and environmental variability on decadal and geographic time scales of about 100 km. Due to these characteristics and the political times that determine the duration of the periods that authorities in the sector in Mexico remain in office (six-year periods), it is difficult to transfer knowledge to the small producer.
- Francislene Angelotti (EMBRAPA - Brazil) mentioned as examples the conservation of natural resources for productive purposes, the search for species tolerant to high temperatures and water stress, phytosanitary aspects, the use of microorganisms to increase resistance to water stress, diseases and pests, and the use and management of water, among other aspects. He mentions as an example livestock systems with a neutral carbon balance.
- Gabriel Ciappesoni (INIA-Uruguay) said that his institution is researching the best management practices, forage species, supplements, and forage concentrate in order to optimize livestock production and reduce GHG emissions. Other lines of research address the production of disease-resistant species with low GHG emissions, as well as the development of livestock and agricultural systems with soil conservation and biodiversity. Knowledge transfer is the greatest challenge and is currently carried out by region with the purpose of increasing the resilience of productive systems.
- Doris Soto (INCAR-Chile) pointed out that her institution focused on preparing climate change risk maps for 20 sectors, including artisanal fishing and aquaculture. Biological, physical, climatic, productive, and management information was integrated into these maps. (https://arclim.mma.gob.cl/).
- Pablo Yax (IPICC-Guatemala) said that among the lines of research being addressed is the adaptation of local technology that is easily accessible to farmers, the search for crops that are resistant to climate variations, particularly species used in subsistence crops. Some of these efforts are carried out through collaborations with other countries.
- Mercedes Andrade (CCC and Sustainability-Mexico) mentioned that her institution is focused on the study of climate change. Knowledge transfer is done through several strategies, one of which is to involve local human populations both in the research processes (e.g., in the evaluation of climate variability) and in the dissemination of results (e.g., through home garden workshops incorporating traditional knowledge).

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

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KEYWORDS

- Finance
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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Resumen-Dialogo-Regional-PLACA-GACSA.pdf

RELEVANT LINKS

- **PLACA**
  http://www.fao.org/americas/prioridades/agricultura-sostenible-y-resiliente/placa/es/