

45th session of the IFAD Governing Council

Statement of El Salvador on “Leveraging innovations and finance for a climate resilient and inclusive recovery”

El Salvador faces problems of economic, social, and environmental inequality, making it a vulnerable country, a situation made more critical by its geographic position and the adverse effects of climate change. Continuous changes in temperature and precipitation patterns generate substantial losses in food production. In order to contribute to the goal of reducing global temperature (2°C), it is necessary to establish policies and plans aimed at sustainable development.

El Salvador's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory shows that 57.8% of GHG emissions (11,793.6 KtonCO₂Eq, net) come from the AFOLU Sector (Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use); in order to contribute to the mitigation and adaptation of the effects of Climate Change, national commitments have been established through the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 2021), taking into account that about 90% of the emissions generated come from the AFOLU and energy sectors, mitigation measures are oriented, especially towards these sectors.

The latest climate change scenarios confirm that national precipitation in the period between 2021-2050 will be reduced by 10-20%, generating effects mainly through damage to basic grains, vegetables, and fruits. Between 2021-2050, would be reduced by between 10 % and 20 %, generating effects mainly due to damage to basic grains, vegetables, and fruit crops.

These conditions determine the exposure and vulnerability of the territory and its inhabitants to the threats of climate change and its associated variability, but also condition the country's priorities and the actions of the State, not only in terms of the implementation of actions at the local and territorial level, but also in terms of their contribution to the global response, for example, to the commitments of the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), as the leading entity in the country's agricultural sector, and other executing organizations, should access sources of climate finance for the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded lands in the agricultural landscape and a transition to low-carbon agriculture and livestock.

The MAG's Agricultural Rescue Master Plan includes strategic axes for resilient and low-carbon production, focused on technological innovation and development of rural territories, and the following initiatives are currently being developed:

- **Rural Adelante Program**
 - **Climate Resilience Program**
 - **NAMA Cattle Raising**
- **The Rural Adelante Program is made up of three complementary and interrelated components:**

Component 1. Capacity building for sustainable production with adaptation to climate change. The objective of this component is to improve research, extension, education, and

training services for the development of the prioritized chains, with a focus on adaptation to climate change.

Component 2. Development of competitive, sustainable, and inclusive value chains. The objective is to promote the development of value chains as a mechanism for generating market access opportunities and increasing the income of rural families living in poverty, through an innovative approach of market demand, which seeks to adapt the chain's production, transformation, and marketing processes to the requirements of quantity, quality and frequency of distribution demanded by the market.

Also promote the incorporation of the necessary improvements to guarantee the commercialization of high-quality products required by the formal market under competitive and sustainable conditions.

Component 3. Strengthening the public policy framework for rural development. The objective is to strengthen the public and institutional policy framework for rural development. Support the analysis, formulation and implementation of policies related to value chains; the environment and adaptation to climate change; gender, rural youth, and indigenous populations.

- **Climate Resilience Program:** Its objective is to maintain the ecosystem services provided by the coffee forest and improve the food security of small coffee producers. Its components are:

Component I. Adoption of Climate Smart Technologies. The objective is to implement diversified agroforestry production systems with a focus on climate change adaptation, gender and youth, and modern coffee farming.

Component II. Commercialization and Associativity. The objective is to increase the profitability of coffee value chains through commercialization and associativity, providing support for the formalization of associations, co-financing of business plans to increase the added value of coffee, training in agribusiness management and marketing, among others.

Component III. Modernization of the National Information, Innovation and Extension Systems of the Coffee Sector. The objective is to improve the governance of the coffee sub-sector through the modernization of the coffee information systems and digital agenda, modernization of the national coffee research systems, as well as the coffee extension system.

- **Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA).** The objective is to increase ambitions in the reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions for the Cattle Sub-sector through the formulation of a NAMA, increasing the commitment of El Salvador's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC). The actions contemplated for this plan are:
 1. Production and use of probiotics in cattle feed.
 2. Planting and use of live fences.
 3. Shade and multipurpose trees.
 4. Planting and use of improved pastures.
 5. Planting and use of protein banks and energy banks.

6. Rotation and rational use of paddocks.

7. Treatment and use of bovine manure.

Adaptation and mitigation of climate change through sustainable and intelligent agriculture with a focus on gender and youth, modernization, digitalization, and precision agriculture require financing that contemplates a paradigm shift in governance, production systems, and technical and institutional strengthening. El Salvador is initiating the transformation of the agricultural, forestry, fisheries, and aquaculture sector through the Agricultural Rescue Master Plan.

It is pertinent to point out that the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is a very important strategic partner of El Salvador in promoting these issues, and we urge it to continue providing technical and financial cooperation for the implementation of programs focused on the development of sustainable, resilient, and inclusive agri-food systems that are adapted to the adverse effects of climate change.