

INTERNATIONAL

Modalities for the 2nd Sharm El-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Workshop



Submission to the UNFCCC

February 28, 2026

The second workshop under the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security aims to share views on the progress, challenges, and opportunities related to identifying needs and accessing means of implementation for climate action in agriculture and food security including sharing best practices.

A central focus of the workshop could usefully focus on improving access to finance, especially for smallholder farmers, by exploring how to scale blended finance instruments, foster cross-sector partnerships, leverage adaptation and mitigation co-benefits, and address trade and regulatory barriers. The workshop could also explore stronger coordination with the Global Climate Action Agenda (**GCAA**) to enhance action and implementation.

Key issues include persistent implementation barriers in climate resilient agriculture, such as limited funding, technical gaps, and weak institutional capacity. The workshop could be designed as a collaborative program to share best practice, strengthen partnerships, and promote systemic approaches to food security and sustainable agriculture among Parties and non-Party stakeholders. It could usefully engage Parties, financial institutions, UN agencies, the private sector, academia, representatives of smallholder farmers, and local and Indigenous communities to ensure inclusive, practical solutions. Emphasis could be placed on improving knowledge exchange, enhancing complementarity among existing capacity-building initiatives, and identifying needs for means of implementation.

Through panels, breakout discussions, interactive sessions, and hybrid participation, the workshop seeks to generate actionable recommendations. Parties could also consider whether a dedicated post-COP31 work programme on agriculture is needed.

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Topics and questions for consideration:

- **Finance:** How can this workshop support and accelerate progress in addressing challenges in accessing finance, scaling the use of blended instruments, and fostering cross-sector partnerships?
- **Alignment with GCAA, including the role of non-Party stakeholders:** How can the Action Agenda and the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on climate action and agriculture be coordinated in order to enhance action and implementation?
- **Barriers to implementation:** What barriers do Parties face in implementing climate resilient agricultural policies and how can these be overcome?
- **Capacity Building:** How can Parties better facilitate the sharing of best practices on sustainable agriculture and resilient food systems with the aim of addressing persistent technical and knowledge gaps? How can existing capacity building mechanisms ensure greater complementarity and coherence in their provision of support?

A. Introduction

1. Climate change presents a multifaceted challenge to global food systems: it exacerbates food insecurity, increases the vulnerability of agricultural systems to extreme weather events, and compromises biodiversity. Agriculture also contributes to climate change but is still a key sector in the context of staying within the 1.5°C/5°C limit of the Paris Agreement. For these reasons, the urgency of addressing climate change through integrated, systemic approaches across agriculture, food systems, and food security has never been more pressing. Transitioning to climate-resilient, sustainable agricultural practice is vital not only to ensure food security but also to help achieve broader climate goals.
2. The workshops under the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work seek to advance cooperation, knowledge sharing, and actionable recommendations for integrating agriculture into national climate strategies and enhancing climate resilience. Stakeholder involvement, including non-governmental organizations (**NGOs**), the private sector, and local communities, plays a vital role in ensuring systemic solutions for food security and sustainable agricultural development.
3. This submission outlines the objectives, topics, participants, and modes of engagement for organizing the first workshop under the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food, during the 64th meeting of the Subsidiary Bodies (**SB64**) in June 2026.¹ The aim of the second workshop is *progress, challenges and opportunities related to identifying needs and accessing means of implementation for climate action on agriculture and food security, including sharing of best practices*. This submission identifies considerations and sets out recommendations for the design and structure of the second workshop.



Context

4. The 27th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (**COP27**) established the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security, a four-year initiative to discuss increasing ambition on climate action in agriculture and food security.
5. The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience (**UAE Framework**) adopted at COP28 further underscores the need for systemic and holistic approaches to agriculture. It sets a target (target 9(b)) to achieve global climate resilience by 2030, urging Parties to prioritize sustainable, climate resilient agriculture. Adopted at COP30, the Belém Adaptation Indicators include five indicators related to target 9(b) attaining climate-resilient food and agricultural production and supply and distribution of food, as well as increasing sustainable and regenerative production and equitable access to adequate food and nutrition for all.²
6. The COP28 GST decision further sets out a number of key, transformational global targets and signals to Parties to: (i) inform their next NDCs; and (ii) enhance implementation and international cooperation.³ These targets and signals include a call to Parties to achieve by 2030 the UAE Framework target of: attaining climate-resilient food and agricultural production and supply; distribution of food and increasing sustainable and regenerative production; and equitable access to adequate food and nutrition for all, as well as to implement and integrate multi-sectoral solutions like sustainable agriculture and resilient food systems. In this context, the joint work could further add value to the follow-up to the first GST as Parties explore how to advance cooperation and integration across climate action, agriculture, and food security.
7. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (**SBSTA**) and Subsidiary Body for Implementation (**SBI**) requested the UNFCCC Secretariat to hold in-session workshops under the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security.⁴ The SBs have called on Parties and observers to submit their views on the second workshop, scheduled for June 2026.

B. Proposed Modalities for the 2nd workshop

Objectives

8. The primary objectives of the workshop could usefully:
 - promote knowledge sharing on effective strategies and of successful case studies of implementation of climate action and agriculture
 - strengthen partnerships for implementation of sustainable, climate-resilient agricultural practices through coordinated international efforts
 - create space to discuss whether an additional work programme could be launched on agriculture post SB65/COP31.
9. To achieve those objectives, the workshop could usefully:
 - aim to ensure a holistic and systemic approach to food security, climate resilience, and sustainable agricultural development for increasing implementation
 - encourage the development of best practice
 - enhance international cooperation for the implementation of climate resilient and climate smart agriculture.

Topics

10. **Financing for agriculture:** Many of the obstacles to accelerating the achievement of sustainable agriculture and resilient food systems are often attributed to lack of finance. Despite a reported rise in financial support for agrifood systems in recent years, overall funding still represents only a fraction of transition needs.⁵ Topics for the second workshop related to the finance discussion could include:
- improving access to finance, particularly challenges for smallholders
 - scaling the use of blended financial instruments
 - addressing governance and market constraints
 - fostering partnerships across agriculture, conservation, finance, and policymaking sectors
 - scoping opportunities to leverage dual-benefit finance for agriculture solutions that target both adaptation and mitigation;
 - addressing trade, finance, and regulatory barriers that support sustainable products.
11. **Alignment with GCAA, its activation group on agriculture,⁶ and the role of non-Party stakeholders:** Exploring roles for NGOs, the private sector, the GCAA and its activation group and local communities to contribute to the implementation of climate-resilient agricultural policies. This could include funding, expertise, advocacy, and grassroots support that complement government efforts and ensure the long-term sustainability of climate adaptation strategies.
12. **Capacity building:** Addressing the technical and knowledge gaps preventing climate action and implementation on agriculture and food security. Best practice shared through clear communication channels, cross-sectoral working groups, and joint initiatives, can inform the successful implementation of climate-resilient agriculture strategies. Initiatives such as the UN Development Programme (*UNDP*)'s Climate Promise, the Nationally Determined Contribution Partnership, and UN4NAPs can provide comprehensive support.
13. **Barriers to implementation:** Overcoming key barriers to implementing climate-resilient agricultural, such as limited financial resources, lack of technical expertise, and insufficient political will. Strengthening institutional capacities, increasing financial support, and enhancing collaboration between stakeholders.

Participants, Including Speakers

14. Financial organizations could usefully be at the center point of the workshop and highlight their ability to provide financing for implementing climate resilient agriculture and food systems in their work. Parties could usefully share their progress and best practices as well as the challenges they face in identifying needs and accessing means of implementation for climate action on agriculture and food security. Suggested speakers include:

Table 1: Suggested speakers and potential roles

Speakers	Role(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC Secretariat • Chairs of the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture and Climate Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set the tone for the workshop, emphasize the importance of agriculture and food security in global climate action and the need for means of implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) • UN Development Programme (UNDP) • Green Climate Fund (GCF) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the urgency of means of implementation for climate-resilient agriculture



Speakers	Role(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Environmental Facility (GEF) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant UN bodies, such as UN Environment Programme, World Health Organization, UN Children's Fund, UN Convention on Biological Diversity⁷ • International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)⁸ • Global Alliance for Climate Resilient Agriculture (GACRA)⁹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share progresses, challenges, and opportunities related to accessing finance, providing technical assistance and capacity building for climate action on agriculture and food security, including sharing of best practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture business/private sector representatives • Academic institutions and research organizations • Local communities' representatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the main barriers in implementing climate-resilient agricultural policies and how these can be overcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation Initiative • Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative • Marrakech Partnership • Race to Resilience and Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda • The Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine innovative solutions for climate-resilient agriculture include technologies, financing, and approaches to support smallholder farmers. • Additionally, the role of non-party stakeholders involves engaging NGOs, the private sector, and local communities in agricultural transformation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation Committee • Least Developed Countries Expert Group • Facilitative working group of the local communities and indigenous people's platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align processes within the UNFCCC on adaptation, agriculture, and the inclusion of the priorities of least developed countries and indigenous peoples.

Modes of Engagement

15. Parties could usefully consider how the second workshop could utilize various modes of engagement to ensure broad participation and collaboration:

- **Panel discussions and expert presentations** could feature key stakeholders and subject matter experts to provide insights on specific topics such as climate resilience, finance, agricultural adaptation, and multi-sectoral approaches.
- **Breakout sessions** could foster thematic discussion groups where participants can engage in more means of implementation-focused dialogues on specific challenges, opportunities, or regions.
- **Interactive Q&A** would allow participants to ask questions and engage directly with speakers and panelists to clarify issues or discuss points of concern.
- **A world café/roundtable discussions/breakout** could feature small, interactive group discussions with the intent of fostering cross-sector dialogue between agriculture, climate, health, and finance sectors. To ensure that discussions are reflective of the proposed cross-sector dialogue between



agriculture, climate, health, and finance sectors, it would be important to invite a diverse set of stakeholders who can bring valuable perspectives and expertise to the discussion.

- **Live/real-time polling and feedback** would allow facilitators to gather participants' perspectives and feedback on key issues (e.g., top priorities for integrating agriculture into NDCs and/or NAPs).
- **Hybrid participation** would allow for virtual participation to maximize participation and minimize costs.

C. C2ES Resources

16. The Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES)'s Enhancing Action & International Cooperation for Sustainable Agriculture and Resilient Food Systems policy brief focuses on the GST decision's calls to Parties to achieve by 2030. This includes the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience target of attaining climate-resilient food and agricultural production and supply and distribution of food and increasing sustainable and regenerative production and equitable access to adequate food and nutrition for all, as well as to implement and integrate multi-sectoral solutions like sustainable agriculture and resilient food systems. It further sets out barriers and solutions, as identified by our work and others, that must be addressed and implemented to enable real action. It also sets out key leadership considerations, how such a leadership role can be effectively utilized, and key priorities for 2024-26.

[Enhancing International Cooperation for Sustainable Agriculture and Resilient Food Systems](#) (October 2024)

17. Please see C2ES' previous submission to the Sharm El-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food.

[Modalities for the first Sharm El-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Workshop](#) (February 2025)



D. References

¹ UN Framework Convention on Climate Change [hereinafter UNFCCC], Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its sixtieth session, held in Bonn from 3 to 13 June 2024, FCCC/SBSTA/2024/7, ¶ 114 (July 30, 2024), https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta2024_07E.pdf; UNFCCC, Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its sixtieth session, held in Bonn from 3 to 13 June 2024, FCCC/SBI/2024/13, ¶ 61 (July 30, 2024), https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbi2024_13E.pdf.

² UNFCCC, *Matters relating to adaptation Proposal by the President Global Goal on Adaptation*, Draft Decision - /CMA7, Annex, https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2025_L25E.pdf.

³ UNFCCC, *Outcome of the first global stocktake*, Decision 1/CMA.5, ¶ 79 (December 13, 2023), <https://unfccc.int/documents/637073>.

⁴ UNFCCC, *Joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security*, Decision 3/CP.27, ¶ 15(b) (November 6, 2022), <https://unfccc.int/documents/626561>.

⁵ Harsha Vishnumolakala, Léa Faucheux, Jide Olutoke, *Landscape of climate finance for agrifood systems* (Climate Policy Initiative & ClimateShot Investor Coalition, 2025), <https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Landscape-of-Climate-Finance-for-Agrifood-Systems-2025.pdf>.

⁶ "Global Climate Action," UNFCCC-Climate Action, accessed February 18, 2026, <https://climateaction.unfccc.int/CopsAndSummits/COP30>. UNFCCC, *Global Climate Action Agenda 2026–2030: A five-year vision for accelerating implementation* (January 2026), https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCAA_2026-30.pdf.

⁷ This list is non-exhaustive, and speakers could be considered for the second workshop within this list.

⁸ "Home," International Fund for Agriculture Development, accessed February 11, 2026, <https://www.ifad.org/en/>.

⁹ "Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture," Nationally Determined Contributions Partnership, accessed February 11, 2025, <https://ndcpartnership.org/knowledge-portal/climate-toolbox/global-alliance-climate-smart-agriculture>.