

9 September 2025

Submission: Views on the “Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3 Trillion” from the World Rural Forum

The **World Rural Forum (WRF)** is honoured to contribute to the “Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T” consultation process. As a **global network representing over 75 million family farmers** across 90 countries, the WRF is grateful for the opportunity to share the views from family farmers and rural communities, who are both implementers of climate solutions and among those most affected by the impacts of climate change.

While the Roadmap addresses the wider landscape of climate finance, we believe its ultimate success depends on effective implementation that reaches the communities where climate action occurs daily. For family farming, climate finance represents more than financial flows; it determines family farmers’ capacity to adapt to changing weather patterns, recover from climate-related losses, and contribute to mitigation efforts through sustainable agricultural practices. This submission focuses on how the Roadmap can bridge global financing ambitions with local implementation realities, addressing the core of your proposed questions.

Family farmers are key actors with strategic importance to climate action

Referring to **key actors** essential for delivering the USD 1.3 trillion target, family farming organisations represent an important stakeholder group with significant untapped potential. **Family farming is a cornerstone of global food security and rural development**, producing 80% of the world's food by value while supporting 2.5 billion people's livelihoods. The UN Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028), approved by the UN General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/72/239](#), recognises this sector's transformative potential for sustainable development and its multiple co-benefits for society and ecosystems. However, current climate finance allocation for family farming is considerably low. [In 2021, only 0.3% of global climate funding reached small-scale family farming projects.](#)

Agriculture and food systems occupy a unique position in climate policy discussions. While contributing to greenhouse gas emissions, the sector is simultaneously among the most climate-vulnerable. As recognised during the [Family Farming Pre-COP30 in Brasilia](#) (June 2025), family farmers, through agroecological approaches and their territorial knowledge, are providing practical solutions that integrate food security with environmental sustainability (biodiversity conservation, land restoration), which can be scaled up with appropriate resources and finance.

Priority actions for scaling climate finance

The Roadmap's success hinges on developing finance mechanisms that effectively reach local implementers (e.g. family farmers and their organisations), especially in vulnerable regions. Current procedures often present significant barriers for family farmers organisations, including lengthy and costly accreditation processes. A successful Roadmap should help establish and scale up simplified access pathways and earmarked funding in climate funds as **priority short-term actions**, similar to successful models like the [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program's \(GAFSP\) special window](#) or the [Forest and Farm Facility \(FFF\)](#). These programmes facilitate direct engagement with rural communities and family farmers, and prioritise the direct flow of funding to family farming

organisations. In parallel, to address the access barriers, family farming organisations are working towards establishing their own farmer-led, dedicated fund for empowerment and resilience.

Funds like the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD), the Adaptation Fund and other specialised climate funds play an essential role in channeling climate finance and are uniquely positioned to ensure it reaches on-the-ground communities through impact investments and collaborative governance. While some steps have been taken, ensuring family farmers' proper representation in climate funds governance should be priority **medium-to-longer term targets** and common practice for future climate bodies. This requires reforming decision-making structures to include dedicated seats and appropriate consultation processes in projects that affect family farmers, considering the specific needs of women and youth.

Strategies to enhance and scale up climate finance

With global temperatures rising and extreme floods, droughts and storms damaging harvests and impacting livelihoods and economies worldwide, it is essential for the Roadmap to **prioritise finance for adaptation**. Despite efforts to raise funding for adaptation, the [2024 Adaptation Gap Report](#) shows that developing countries will need an estimated USD 215-387 per year by 2030 in adaptation finance. Currently, the enormous and widening gap between adaptation finance needs and flows delays urgent implementation, which impacts marginalised and vulnerable populations such as family farmers. In parallel, inadequate adaptation funding for family farmers also halts potential cost-effective and at-scale climate solutions. [Family farming works about 70-80% of all farmland](#), meaning that transforming our food systems and responding effectively to the effects of climate change cannot be achieved without family farmers.

Given the complex global economic context, it is crucial that the Roadmap reaffirms the commitment to provide sufficient public financing that is additional and predictable for developing countries. The Roadmap should recognise States' role in fostering sustainable economic growth, developing a favourable policy environment, regulating markets, and leading investing in public infrastructure needed for addressing the impacts of climate change. Public climate finance should be complemented by private sector efforts to raise ambition, share transition risks and foster partnerships that incentivise investment in climate-resilient agricultural practices. In this regard, negotiations on the **just transition** become vital, as they present an opportunity to ensure people-centred climate action across key sectors where shifting our economy has profound impacts on livelihoods, such as agriculture. It is vital that these strategies ensure that vulnerable farming communities have access to preventive measures and recovery support.

NDCs 3.0 and updated National Adaptation Plans can drive economy-wide transformation and unlock finance being central to mobilising climate finance under the Roadmap. The **meaningful participation of family farmers in the development and implementation of NDCs is essential** to leverage agrifood systems as climate solutions and raise local ambition, as well as to garner support for sustainability policies. For example, Brazil's sectoral adaptation plan (Plano Clima) for Family Farming sets an example by demonstrating how it can contribute to its NDC through the implementation of agroecological and agroforestry practices, pasture restoration, and effective water management.



Experiences and Approaches to Mobilise Financing

Family farming organisations offer valuable lessons in community-based resource management and local implementation that can inform broader financing strategies under the Roadmap. For example leveraging existing structures that connect local to global levels. **Family farming organisations represent established networks** with deep community connections and practical experience in resource management. These existing structures can significantly enhance the efficiency, impact and cost-effectiveness of climate finance deployment through targeted grants and concessional financing mechanisms that recognise their role as both implementers and knowledge holders.

As climate finance and ambition increase in scale, it is necessary that **technical assistance** programmes are also expanded. These programmes should focus on empowering rural communities to access and use resources and technologies. This includes supporting farmers organisations in the development of project capabilities while respecting and integrating traditional knowledge systems with appropriate innovations.

To achieve an inclusive and ambitious *Baku to Belém Roadmap*, it is crucial to recognise family farmers as key partners in climate action. Their local knowledge, community connections and proven resilience are valuable assets to leverage the power of agrifood system solutions to address climate change, biodiversity loss and desertification. The World Rural Forum remains committed to supporting the Roadmap's development and implementation, ensuring that rural perspectives inform this vital initiative.

The World Rural Forum thanks the Governments of Azerbaijan and Brazil serving as COP29 and COP30 Presidencies for their leadership on this important process and looks forward to continued collaboration in creating climate finance mechanisms that deliver meaningful results for communities and ecosystems.

The World Rural Forum Secretariat