

CGIAR @COP28 Daily Newsletter



Climate
Impact Platform



Reflections on the day

From Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR.



The interest in CGIAR science has never been higher. The need for our work has also been made clear, as the discourse around food systems and climate change as interconnected challenges grows.....

What a wonderful experience it has been to begin my tenure as CGIAR's Executive Managing Director here at COP28. These two weeks have provided so many incredible moments to showcase our work, and the opportunities coming from our engagements will bear fruit for years to come.

From our Pavilion to our engagements in official side events and other Pavilions, and in conversations with stakeholders, partners, and donors, the interest in CGIAR science has never been higher. The need for our work has also been made clear, as the discourse around food systems and climate change as interconnected challenges grows.

While it has been heartening to see food systems, agriculture, and the needs of millions of smallholder farmers and consumers in low- and middle-income countries throughout the world raised so high on the global stage, the negotiations at COP28 have shown us that much work remains to be done

For example, to date, the Global Stocktake and Global Goals on Adaptation are falling short of the levels of ambition we saw in the UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action.

And so, as a scientific organization, our work remains essential and will continue, informing and engaging with the policy process to translate targets into tangible indicators. As I visit our Centers and regions in the coming weeks and months, I look forward to hearing from you and seeing your work on the ground so we can build upon the important work we have accomplished together here.

Unlocking agricultural resilience: data-driven solutions for sustainable agrifood systems

Food and Agriculture Pavilion

Convener: IWMI, ClimbeR, EIA, Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT



In an era defined by mounting climate variability and unpredictability, the imperative for proactive and anticipatory measures within sustainable agrifood systems is paramount. This collaborative session brought together key initiatives that shared a common goal of enhancing climate resilience and leveraging data-driven solutions for agrifood systems. Central to panelists' discussions was the importance of accessible climate and weather data systems, which are essential for informed decision-making and empowering agriculture, disaster risk reduction and creating market systems that ensure a sustainable and resilient future.

"I hope this journey of data driven sessions doesn't end with this one, and we can work with the private sector in coming years", enthused Giriraj Amarnath, of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

"Data and the availability of data - being able to have access to data, having open data that is accessible - is absolutely critical to the work that we are doing. With AI this becomes particularly important. Without good, open quality data, we don't get anywhere. In fact, we have the potential to do harm", cautioned Medha Devare, chief Data Officer, Excellence in Agronomy (EiA), CGIAR.

Adding his voice to the call for more, better quality data, Ram Dhulipala, senior scientist working on digital agriculture and innovation at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), said, "Agriculture data hubs help minimize costs in a form that is more suitable for agronomic advisories."

Key Take Away

- Data available in modeling systems that are available for policy makers must be relevant for decision making processes.
- Build very specific recommendations into systems that exist with public and private sector partnerships.
- Success starts with a foundation of sound science. For example, agronomists must test application rates using sound scientific methods, which require data.
- Public and private partners must come together and leverage expertise.
- People need access to real-time data in order to create live, 'just-in-time' decision making tools. The public sector can step up here, but there also needs to be more competition between private service providers to bring the costs down. This highlights the need for robust business models and for the private sector to step in.
- Data is a public good: the public sector has to underwrite the cost of this as quality data at a ward level can have food security implications.
- CGIAR must continue to build on open, high quality, interoperable data. The organization needs to make sure that trial data is open and reusable. In the Excellence in Agronomy (EiA) initiative, CGIAR has built a full-scale data ecosystem that goes from collecting open and fair data to being able to use it. There needs to be greater buy-in for this.
- Data must be timely, useful, accessible, centering on the needs of farmers.

Recap of negotiations

The new text emphasizes the critical role of protecting water systems, biodiversity, and ecosystems in addressing climate change. It aligns with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and emphasizes 2030 targets related to adaptation. However, concerns arise regarding the mix of ecosystem management approaches and the omission of references to aligning national plans.

On deforestation, the proposal maintains the 2030 target but lacks explicit mention of human rights and Indigenous Peoples. In the adaptation section, integrated solutions and ecosystem-based approaches are encouraged, recognizing their multiple benefits.

Concerns are raised about ocean-related actions lacking safeguards, and the text calls for enhanced support for the 2030 deforestation target. Food and agriculture references prioritize sustainable practices and climate-resilient production, while human rights considerations are embedded in gender-responsive and youth-empowering policies.

Indigenous Peoples' rights are acknowledged throughout, emphasizing the importance of traditional knowledge and local systems. The proposal recognizes their role in climate policy, adaptation efforts, and loss and damage contexts.

Despite not calling for a fossil fuel phase-out, the text urges a transition away from fossil fuels and emphasizes deep emission reductions. It sets global efforts, including renewable energy expansion, coal power phase-down, net-zero energy systems, and emission reduction in various sectors. Transitional fuels are recognized in the transition process.

1

Global Stock Take

Text that appeared across various work areas on Tuesday suggests agreements on the [Mitigation Work Program](#), [Just Transition Word Program](#), and [Global Goal on Adaptation](#). However, negotiations on carbon markets, specifically Articles 6.2 and 6.4, failed on Tuesday. Article 6.8 will proceed, focusing on [Non-Market Approaches \(NMAs\)](#). The NMA text is available [here](#).

This morning, new text on the Global Stocktake (GST) was introduced, making strides in connecting UNFCCC and CBD while addressing fossil fuel concerns, though challenges remain

Final Negotiations

Dec 10-11

CGIAR at
COP28

Dubai
30 November – 12 December 2023



#COP28

www.cgiar.org



Thank you to all our contributors for delivering excellent content. Your dedication has enriched this publication, providing our readers with meaningful insights and information.

Contributors

Ismahane Elouafi
Emma Bowa
Janet Hodur
Martina Mascarenhas

Editor

Regina Edward-Uwadia