

## Slow Food message to Governments at COP30

No Climate Justice Without Food Justice

We, the Slow Food movement, issue this Call to the governments and institutions gathered at the UNFCCC's COP30.

We join the call on world leaders to put a Just Transition of food systems at the core of climate action. Real climate solutions must nourish people and planet, regenerate ecosystems, and safeguard the cultural and biological diversity of our diets and landscapes. Food systems are both a driver and a casualty of the climate crisis—but they can also be our most powerful solution, if grounded in the values of good, clean, and fair.

Without bold action to transform food systems, the fight against climate change is destined to fail. It is time to elevate the voices of those who hold the solutions.

To meet the climate challenge, negotiations must be driven by priorities that deliver a just and profound food systems transformation—one that benefits those most affected and marginalized: agroecological farmers, artisanal fishers, women, youth, Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants, and all colonized peoples. Belém's legacy must be a renewed trust in multilateralism to confront the climate crisis.

**Advance agroecology.** Governments must prioritize the transition to agroecological food systems. This means phasing out industrial agriculture and intensive fisheries, reforming harmful subsidies, and reshaping practices, knowledge systems, social relations, and policies in line with the principles of agroecology. The Baku-to-Belém roadmap must channel \$1.3 trillion a year by 2035 into farmers and ecosystems—not fossil fuels.

**Recognise food sovereignty as climate action.** Real climate resilience begins with communities' right to decide how food is produced and consumed. Governments must back fair food environments that reduce reliance on extractive global supply chains responsible for deforestation, land and water grabbing, and the dumping of cheap products. False solutions—carbon offsets and techno-fixes that delay real action—must be rejected.

**Redirect climate finance.** Food finance must serve food sovereignty, not profit-making. Climate and biodiversity goals require a massive scale-up of public and private finance for food, especially for those on the frontlines of the crisis. Resources must reach communities directly, supporting mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity, and the right to food. The financialization of agrifood systems must be challenged and redirected to the public interest.



Guarantee food is a human right. Climate policy must guarantee the right to good, clean, and fair food. Everyone should have access to nutritious, diverse, culturally rooted, and ecologically sustainable diets. This requires inclusive food governance, strong public policies, and accountability for corporate violations of human rights and ecosystems.

**Break free from fossil fuels.** Food systems must be liberated from fossil fuel dependency. Governments must phase out synthetic fertilizers and pesticides that poison ecosystems and lock in fossil use, while promoting community-led renewable energy solutions that uphold Indigenous and human rights.

**Defend local food systems.** Short food chains cut emissions, strengthen local economies, and protect food diversity and cultural knowledge. Governments should invest in local and Indigenous food systems—supporting farmers' markets, public procurement, farmer-to-consumer programs, and school meals based on seasonal and regional foods.

We envision a future where food reconnects us, with ecosystems and with one another.

Governments must act with urgency, wisdom, humility, and love for the Earth. Climate negotiations that ignore food systems and biodiversity are incomplete. Let COP30 be remembered as the turning point where food, culture, and climate came together—not just in policy, but on every table.

Governments must act not only with urgency but with wisdom, humility, and love for the Earth. Climate negotiations that sideline food systems and biodiversity are destined to fail. Let COP30 be remembered as the turning point where food, culture, and climate came together not just in policy, but on every table.

Because the future is Slow, not fast. Nurturing, not extractive. Biodiverse, not uniform. Good, Clean, and Fair - for all.

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