

## PAFO-AHA PARTNERSHIP “Strengthening Farmers’ Organizations”

### Online seminar series to build the capacity of farmer representatives from Africa in UNFCCC climate negotiation processes

Farmers’ organizations (FOs) are in a central position when identifying systemic solutions responding to the needs and interests of their members. They also are central in providing institutional anchorage to implement solutions. However, with regard to global climate negotiations, FOs still play a limited role in national and regional processes.

The [Pan-African Farmers’ Organization \(PAFO\)](#) in collaboration with the [World Farmers’ Organization \(WFO\)](#), the [Food and Forest Development Finland \(FFD\)](#), and the [Andreas Hermes Akademie \(AHA\)](#), is organizing a new online series of tailor-made seminars on negotiation processes within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The project targets elected representatives, as well as technical staff from African RFO, their member NFOs, as well as PAFO. This also includes representatives from members of the WFO in Africa at the national level to assume a more prominent role in the different UNFCCC negotiation processes and other topics related to the climate change and also to assist their members in contributing at the national level.

11 online seminars, of one and a half hours, will be conducted until COP28, which will take place in Dubai from 30 November until 12 December 2023.

The seminar series is open to all participants from RFOs and NFOs especially those from leadership positions and secretariat staff but the participants should be committed for them to be considered.

The realization of the online seminar series is supported by AHA, through its program on “Strengthening Farmers’ Organizations” funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). PAFO is hosting the seminars for African FO while WFO will ensure access to the recorded sessions beyond Africa.

The project aims to build the capacity of RFOs and NFOs to make well-informed decisions to represent their members’ interests in climate policies and negotiations. By raising their awareness of climate change, its links with agriculture, the UNFCCC and its legal instruments and processes, RFOs and NFOs will also, at the same time, be able to update their strategies and partnerships. The objective? To participate effectively in the development of climate policies and increase the recognition of farmers' organizations as important actors on the climate agenda.

Farmers' organizations play an essential role in resolving the problems posed by climate change in the agricultural sector. Their expertise, knowledge, and on-the-ground experience make it essential to recognize and involve farmers’ organizations in climate-related discussions and decision-making processes. By empowering them and strengthening their influence, policy-makers can draw on their



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valuable knowledge to develop effective climate strategies that are rooted in the realities of farming communities.

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#### **About PAFO**

The Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) is a continental organization with a membership base composed of Regional Farmers Networks. PAFO is the voice of more than 80 million African farmers integrated into nearly 70 national organizations, unions, federations, cooperatives, associations, etc., present in more than 45 countries on the continent, and united in five regional networks operating at the heart of African agriculture: EAFB; PROPAC; ROPPA; SACAU and UMNAGRI.

PAFO has a fundamental coordinating function with its member networks and with its member networks and continental and international organizations. It is thus able to facilitate dialogue and cooperation with various continental and international institutions and financial and technical partners. PAFO is recognized as a reliable and representative partner of African Farmers, able to provide common positions on issues and themes dealing with agriculture and rural development in Africa. PAFO is also able to contribute to the formulation of projects and the development of the capacities necessary to follow them up.

**Read more under the website:** <http://www.pafo-africa.org/>

**Facebook:** [Pan African Farmers Organization](#)

#### **About AHA**

Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA) is a German capacity-building institution, based in the farming sector in Germany, with members consisting of the German Farmers Association, the Association of Rural Women, the Association of Rural Youth, and many more. AHA has made an important contribution to the professionalization of the associative life, leadership, and further education of German farmers for over 70 years. At an international level, AHA is promoting the professionalization of the organized farming sector and fostering an entrepreneurial mindset for farmers and farmers' organizations, aiming at organizational sustainability and ultimately increasing food security and vibrant rural areas. AHA, with the financial support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) strengthens member-based farmers' organizations in Africa and India to serve their members according to their needs, assume responsibility, develop appropriate services, and enter into a dialogue with government, trade, industry and society.

**Read more under the website:** <https://www.andreas-hermes-akademie.de/>

**Facebook:** [AHA International](#)

#### **About WFO**

The World Farmers' Organization (WFO) is a member-based association, bringing together national farmers' organizations and agricultural cooperatives from all over the world. WFO mission is to represent the farmers' voice and advocate on their behalf in all the relevant international processes affecting their present and their future, ranging from the global dialogue on agriculture to nutrition and sustainability. This includes Climate Change negotiations (COP), Committee on World Food Security (CFS), United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai Framework), IFAD's farmers' forum, AMR debate (OIE, FAO, WHO), trade (WTO), and many more.

The objective is to create the conditions for the adoption of policies and programs that can improve the economic environment and livelihood of producers and rural communities, strengthening the contribution of agriculture in tackling the challenges humankind faces.

**Read more under the website:** <https://www.wfo-oma.org/wfo/>

**Facebook:** [World Farmers' Organisation](#)

#### **About FFD**

FFD is a non-profit development organization that has been supporting agricultural and forestry producer organizations and cooperatives in Africa, Asia and Latin America since 2012. FFD is a member of the [AgriCord](#) Alliance, and since 2018 we have been leading the alliance's climate work. We implement AgriCord's strategy, which aims to reduce poverty through the strengthening of producer organizations and livelihoods.

FFD's operations focus on the food, water and energy nexus, improving producers' opportunities to use natural resources productively and sustainably. Land management and related rights are central to FFD's operations. Through organizations, we support the rights and responsibility of small producers, we build their resilience against climate change as well as other shocks.

**Read more under the website**

**Facebook:** [Food and Forest Development Finland - FF](#)