



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

World Future Council

IFOAM
ORGANICS
INTERNATIONAL



Celebrating the World's Best Policies for Agroecology

Call for Nominations

"We need to put forward sustainable food systems that offer healthy and nutritious food, and also preserve the environment. Agroecology can offer several contributions to this process as it provides many economic, social and environmental co-benefits."

José Graziano da Silva, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

I. BACKGROUND

Showcasing Legal Frameworks and Policies that Create Enabling Environments for Agroecology

The Future Policy Award showcases legislation and policies that create better living conditions for current and future generations. The aim of the award is to raise global awareness for these exemplary laws and policies and promote the spread, implementation and strengthening of such legal frameworks in order to build just, sustainable and prosperous societies, leaving no one behind. The Future Policy Award is the first award that celebrates **policies and legal frameworks rather than people** at international level. Each year the World Future Council chooses one topic on which the need for policy and legal frameworks is particularly urgent, and receives nominations from all over the world for best policies or legal frameworks that are **inspiring, innovative and effective**.

In 2018, the World Future Council's Future Policy Award is working in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO) and IFOAM - Organics International to highlight legal frameworks and policies that create enabling environments for the implementation of agro-ecological approaches, help achieve the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute directly to multiple Sustainable Development Goals. These legal frameworks and policies contribute to the protection of life and livelihoods of smallholders and family farmers, ensure sustainable and inclusive food production systems, implement sustainable agricultural practices that help conserve and enhance the natural resources base and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change and also contribute to mitigation.

¹ Opening speech of José Graziano da Silva, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at the 2nd International Symposium on Agroecology held at FAO in April 2018: <http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/4642/icode/>



Towards food systems that benefit society and the environment!

Our global food system is at a crossroads. Agriculture must meet the challenges of hunger and malnutrition – against a backdrop of population growth, increased pressure on natural resources and the challenge from climate change. While past efforts focused on boosting agricultural output to produce more food, today’s challenges call for a new approach. We need to transform the current food systems and make them sustainable. There is increasing recognition that a regenerative, productive farming sector can provide environmental benefits while creating rural employment and sustaining livelihoods.²

Agroecology can play a key role as it improves the resilience of poor smallholders and family farmers, contributes to the production and consumption of healthy and nutritious food, and boosts local economy and markets, safeguards natural resources and biodiversity, and promotes adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.³ As highlighted during the 2nd International Symposium on Agroecology held at FAO in April 2018⁴, policy processes and legal frameworks can help scale up agroecology at national and international levels, and policy support helps provide an enabling environment for agroecology to flourish.⁵ It is crucial to learn from policies and legal frameworks that are already making an impact.

II. WHAT WE LOOK FOR?

Policies and Legal Frameworks to Change the World

Nominations for the best legal frameworks and policies that create enabling environments for agroecology:

- can support **many different fields**, in particular protecting the rights of smallholders and family farmers to access agrobiodiversity at no costs, conserving agrobiodiversity as an essential resource for future adaptation, true cost accounting in production costs, providing farmers and land managers with incentives to promote the protection and enhancement of ecosystem services through good agricultural practices, strengthening the link between agricultural and nutrition policies, encouraging short commercialization circuits and local food systems (e.g. through procurement policies)⁶, reducing food waste and land pollution, and pesticide management policies.
- can be **local, subnational, national or regional** in nature.

² Foreword by José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General, in: FAO, 2015, Agroecology for Food Security and Nutrition. Proceedings of the FAO International Symposium, 18–19 September 2014, Rome, Italy.

³ <http://www.fao.org/director-general/my-statements/detail/en/c/887668/>

⁴ <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/second-international-agroecology-symposium/en/>

⁵ Conclusions and Recommendations, in: FAO, 2015, Agroecology for Food Security and Nutrition. Proceedings of the FAO International Symposium, 18–19 September 2014, Rome, Italy.

⁶ During the International Symposium, these specific policy priorities were identified. From: Conclusions and Recommendations, in: FAO, 2015, Agroecology for Food Security and Nutrition. Proceedings of the FAO International Symposium, 18–19 September 2014, Rome, Italy.



The nominated policy or legal framework must:

- be **in existence for long enough** to demonstrate its effective implementation and impact;
- deliver **identifiable improvements**; and
- taking into account systemic aspects such as sustainable use of resources, equity, and poverty eradication, reflecting the World Future Council's holistic and integrated perspective and respond well against the **7 Policy Principles that have been adopted by the WFC⁷, the 10 Elements of Agroecology⁸ and IFOAM – Organics International's 4 Principles of Organic Agriculture⁹.**

III. PROCESS

Step 1. The Nomination

To facilitate the nomination process, we have developed a template that you will find in the Annex. We kindly ask you to send your nomination(s) to Ms. Ingrid Heindorf: fpa@worldfuturecouncil.org.

Step 2. The Selection Process

The research team will apply the WFC Future Justice Policy Principles, the Ten Elements of Agroecology and IFOAM – Organics International's Principles of Organic Agriculture to all nominations and provide a shortlist of policies and legal frameworks for consideration by a **Jury of experts from all five continents** at its meeting in July 2018.

Step 3. The Recognition with the Future Policy Award 2018

The winners of the 2018 Future Policy Award will be recognised in a formal ceremony at FAO in Rome during World Food week.

IV. CONVENING PARTNERS

The World Future Council

The World Future Council brings the interests of future generations to the centre of law and policy making. The Council consists of 50 eminent global change-makers from governments, parliaments, the arts, civil society, academia and business. Together they form a voice for the rights of future generations. The Council addresses challenges to our common future and identifies and promotes effective legislative and policy solutions among decision makers.

⁷ You can find more information about the 7 Principles that have been adopted by the WFC: <https://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/seven-principles/>

⁸ FAO Agroecology Knowledge Hub: <http://www.fao.org/agroecology/knowledge/10-elements/en/>

⁹ IFOAM, Principles of Organic Agriculture: <https://www.ifoam.bio/en/organic-landmarks/principles-organic-agriculture>



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The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO’s goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. With over 194 member states, FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide to work towards achieving food and nutrition security, including through providing technical assistance to Members to enhance policy and legal frameworks for food and agriculture and natural resources management. FAO believes that everyone can play a part at different levels and through various means in ending hunger.

IFOAM – Organics International

Since 1972, IFOAM – Organics International has occupied an unchallenged position as the only international umbrella organization of the organic world, uniting an enormous diversity of stakeholders contributing to the organic vision. Being an agent of change, their vision is the broad adoption of truly sustainable agriculture, value chains and consumption in line with the principles of organic agriculture. At the heart of IFOAM – Organics International are its little less than 1000 Affiliates in more than 100 countries.

For further information, please visit: www.worldfuturecouncil.org/future_policy_award.html

V. NOMINATION FORM

Nomination Form – Future Policy Award 2018 on Agroecology

Name:

Email:

Position:

Tel./Skype:

Organization:

Address:

Briefly describe your involvement with the nominated legal framework/policy:



Please complete this form in English, French or Spanish.

Official title of the nominated legal framework/policy:

You may nominate up to three policies, acts, laws, national action plans, decrees or ordinances of an intergovernmental body, country, state, region or municipality. Nominated laws and policies should have been in existence long enough to prove their effective implementation and, most importantly, to deliver identifiable improvements. Governments are not permitted to nominate their own policies, but are welcome to nominate those of other countries.

Country or countries the legal framework/policy was first introduced:

Date of implementation:

Ministries or departments responsible for its introduction:

Do you know if this legal framework/policy has been adopted in other countries? Or if it inspired development of similar policies/legal frameworks? If so, where?

If this is not the case, please describe to what extent it is transferable and applicable to other regions.

Please explain the reasons why this legal framework/policy should be seen as a 'best legal framework or policy'.

Please describe the objectives of the legal framework/policy whilst also referring to the means of implementation and actors involved as well as its influence and impact. Please also explain how the policy aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Max. 150 words.

If possible, please provide the names and contact details of at least 3 experts we can contact for further information regarding the law/policy (Ideally one from the following three domains: policymaker (PO), civil society (CS), academic (A)):

Sources of information on this law/policy, preferably available online:

Thank you for taking the time to submit this nomination.

We kindly ask you to send your nomination(s) to Ms Ingrid Heindorf at

fpa@worldfuturecouncil.org

The deadline for nominations is 15 May 2018, but we will welcome submissions in the weeks following this date as the analysis of nominations will be an ongoing process.