



Institute For  
Food Systems &  
Climate Resilience



# COMPANY PROFILE 2024



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Innovation, sustainability, and collaboration are the pillars that guide our work at IFCA. We are committed to excellence and integrity in all that we do

## Introduction

The Institute for Food Systems and Climate Adaptation (IFCA) is a pioneering research and development organization dedicated to addressing the intricate relationship between food systems and climate change. Founded in 2010, IFCA aims to bridge the gap between innovative research and practical solutions, fostering sustainable food systems that can adapt to the evolving challenges posed by climate change. Our work spans across multiple disciplines, bringing together experts in agriculture, climate science, nutrition, and socio-economic development to create holistic solutions.

# About Us

## Mission

Our mission is to develop and promote resilient and sustainable food systems that can adapt to the impacts of climate change, ensuring nutrition security and enhancing the livelihoods of vulnerable communities. We strive to integrate scientific research with practical solutions, empowering communities to build a sustainable future.

## Vision

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# Passion Is The Key to Drive Your Success

## Core Values

### Innovation

Pioneering new approaches to food systems and climate adaptation. We believe in continuously seeking innovative solutions that address current and future challenges.

### Integrity

Promoting practices that protect and enhance the environment. Our work is rooted in the principle of sustainability, ensuring that our initiatives benefit both people and the planet.

### Collaboration

Partnering with communities, governments, and organizations to achieve common goals. We recognize that collective efforts are essential for creating lasting change

### Excellence

Committing to excellence in research, development, and implementation. Our pursuit of excellence drives us to achieve the highest standards in all that we do.

# Our Approach

## Integrated Research and Development

At IFCA, we adopt an integrated approach that combines research, policy advocacy, and practical implementation. Our methodology involves:

- Conducting comprehensive research to understand the complexities of food systems and their interactions with climate change.
- Developing innovative solutions that are scientifically sound and practically feasible.
- Collaborating with local communities to implement and adapt these solutions in real-world settings.
- Advocating for policy changes that support sustainable food systems and climate resilience.

## Community-Centered Solutions

We believe that the most effective solutions are those that involve the communities they are meant to serve. Our community-centered approach ensures that our projects are culturally appropriate, socially acceptable, and economically viable.

# 1. Food Systems Outcomes

## Food & Nutrition Security

### Current Status

Disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts like the Russia-Ukraine war, weather shocks, and policies such as India's rice export restrictions have increased hunger since 2019. In 2022, over a quarter billion people faced acute food insecurity, requiring urgent assistance, particularly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Nigeria, and many other african countries

### Nutrition

Sub-optimal diets cause 20% of premature mortality and disability-adjusted life years globally. This exacerbates the burden on healthcare systems and perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality. Most countries are off-track to meet 2025 nutrition targets, with high child wasting rates in food crisis areas. In 2022, over 35 million children under five suffered from wasting, with 9.2 million severely affected.

### Regional Variability

Food insecurity increased slightly in Africa and Northern America/Europe but decreased in Asia and Latin America/Caribbean. Urban areas generally experience lower food insecurity levels than rural areas.

### Projection

By 2030, nearly 600 million people are projected to be chronically undernourished, with significant increases expected in Africa. This underscores the challenge of achieving the SDG target to eradicate hunger.

# Climate and Environment

## Overview

Food systems significantly impact environmental sustainability, contributing to degradation and climate change. They are the largest source of anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and major users of freshwater. Unsustainable practices lead to soil degradation, deforestation, and biodiversity loss



## GHG Emissions

Agriculture and food production are major GHG contributors, especially through livestock and mechanization. Shifting to plant-based diets could reduce emissions by nearly half.

## Water Footprint

Agriculture accounts for 70% of global water use, with many withdrawals unsustainable, leading to water scarcity.

## Ecological Footprint

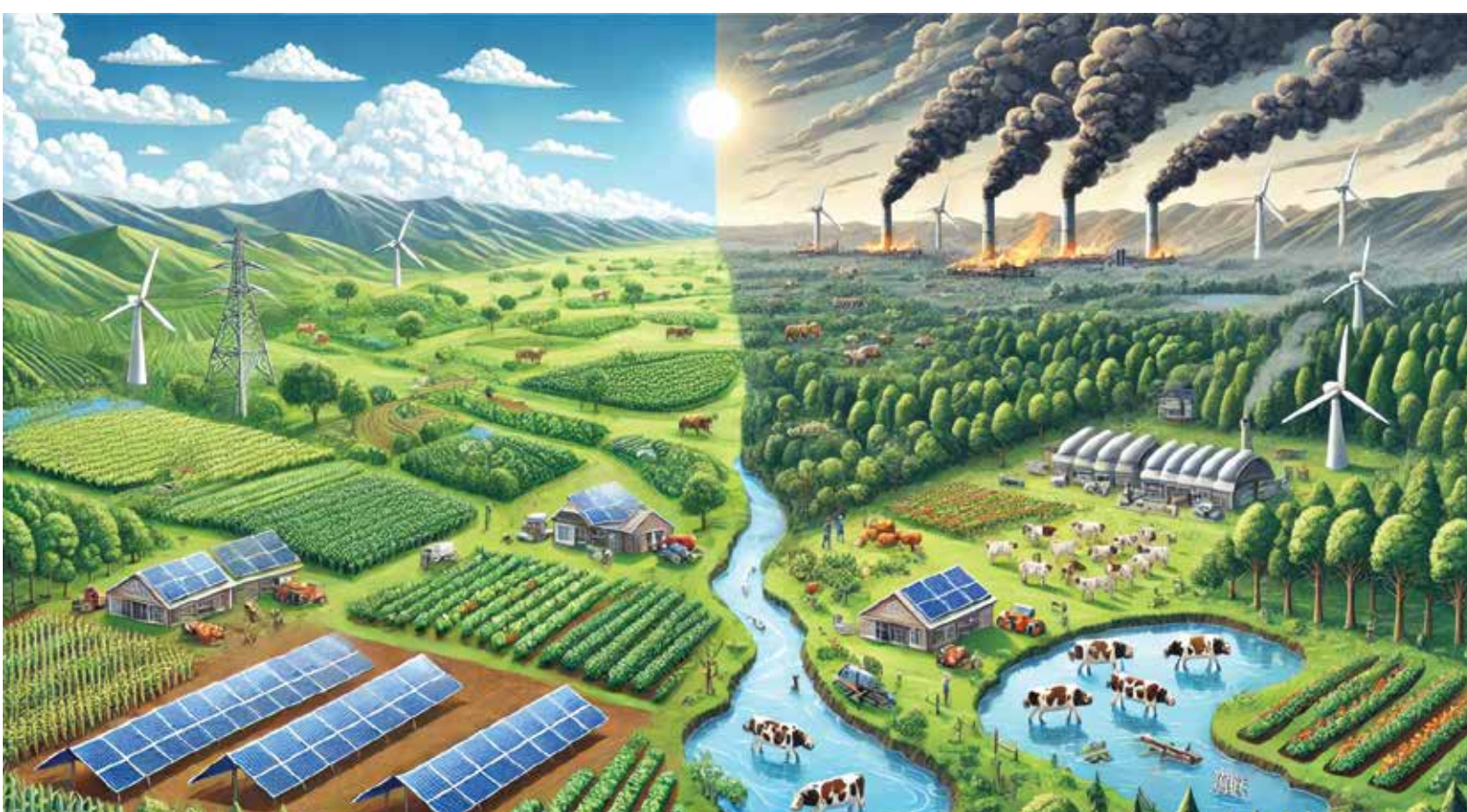
Food production causes biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. Sustainable practices can mitigate these impacts.

## Land Use

Agricultural land expansion often occurs at the expense of forests, contributing to environmental degradation.

## Environmental Sustainability Conclusions

Food systems significantly impact environmental sustainability, primarily through greenhouse gas emissions, water usage, and land degradation. Agriculture, especially livestock production, is a major GHG emitter. Transitioning to plant-based diets can reduce these emissions. Agriculture uses 70% of global freshwater, often unsustainably, leading to water scarcity. Additionally, agricultural land expansion contributes to deforestation, soil degradation, and biodiversity loss. Adopting sustainable practices is crucial to mitigate these impacts and promote environmental health.



# Livelihood, Equity and Social Wellness

## Economic and Social Wellbeing



Food systems are major employment sectors, supporting hundreds of millions worldwide. However, food system workers often face exploitation, low wages, and poor working conditions. Transforming food systems is essential for achieving equitable livelihoods and social resilience. Key indicators of well-being include income, employment, social protection, and rights. Laborers in the food sector are among the poorest globally, with significant income inequalities. In 2019, food systems employed 1.23 billion people, supporting over 3.83 billion livelihoods. Social protection programs are crucial for combating poverty and building resilience, particularly in vulnerable regions like Sub-Saharan Africa.

## 2. Food Systems Drivers

### Demographics and Development

Population distribution, urbanization, and economic development significantly influence global food systems. Changes in these areas shape food production and consumption patterns.

### Consumption

There are disparities between globally produced food and recommended dietary consumption, with rural and urban areas showing differing patterns.

### Technology

Innovations in agricultural and food technology are crucial for inclusive development, particularly for marginalized communities.

### Markets

Despite increased global trade in agricultural products, most food is consumed domestically. Market dynamics influence food availability and access.

### Climate & Environment

Current food systems have severe implications for land use, resource sustainability, and climate change.

### Policy and Geopolitics

Balancing food self-sufficiency with global trade competitiveness is essential, especially amidst increasing conflicts and policy impacts.

# Focus Areas

## 1. Food Systems

- **Research and Development:** Conducting in-depth research on food production, distribution, and consumption patterns to identify areas for improvement.
- **Sustainable Agriculture:** Promoting practices such as agroforestry, permaculture, and regenerative agriculture to enhance soil health and increase biodiversity.
- **Food Security:** Developing strategies to ensure stable and sufficient food supply, even in the face of climatic disruptions.

## 2. Nutrition

- **Nutritional Research:** Investigating the nutritional needs of different populations and developing nutrient-rich crop varieties to meet these needs.
- **Education Programs:** Implementing educational initiatives to raise awareness about the importance of nutrition and healthy eating habits.
- **Community Nutrition Projects:** Establishing community gardens, school feeding programs, and other initiatives to improve local access to nutritious food.

### 3. Climate Change

- **Impact Assessment:** Studying the effects of climate change on agriculture and food systems to develop adaptive strategies.
- **Climate-Resilient Practices:** Promoting practices such as drought-resistant crops, efficient water management, and climate-smart agriculture techniques.
- **Policy Advocacy:** Working with governments and international bodies to promote policies that support climate adaptation and mitigation in food systems.



# Research and Development

## Innovative Projects

Our research projects focus on innovative solutions to enhance food system resilience. Examples include:

- **Climate-Smart Agriculture:** Developing and promoting agricultural practices that are resilient to climate variability and extremes.
- **Advanced Irrigation Systems:** Creating efficient water management systems that reduce water usage and increase crop yields.
- **Sustainable Livelihoods:** Researching alternative livelihoods that can support communities in the face of changing agricultural conditions.

## Research Facilities

IFCA operates state-of-the-art research facilities equipped with the latest technology to support our scientific endeavors. Our labs and field stations are located in [Locations], providing a diverse range of environments for our research.



**Smart farming**

# Community Engagement



## Participatory Research:

Involving community members in the research process to ensure that our findings are relevant and applicable to their needs.



## Capacity Building:

Providing training and resources to local farmers, educators, and community leaders to enhance their skills and knowledge.



## Community-Based Projects:

Implementing projects that address specific community needs, such as establishing local seed banks, improving food storage facilities, and promoting sustainable farming practices.




# Policy Advocacy

## Shaping Policy for Sustainable Food Systems

We engage with policymakers at all levels to advocate for policies that support sustainable food systems and climate adaptation. Our policy efforts include:

- **Policy Research:** Conducting research to provide evidence-based recommendations for policy changes.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborating with government agencies, international organizations, and civil society groups to promote supportive policies.
- **Advocacy Campaigns:** Running campaigns to raise awareness and build support for policy initiatives that enhance food system resilience.

“ Corporate Social Responsibility is not just a duty, but a privilege. It is our commitment to make a positive impact on society and the environment, empowering communities, and fostering sustainable growth. By embracing our responsibilities, we lay the foundation for a better future, where businesses thrive, people flourish, and our planet thrives in harmony.”

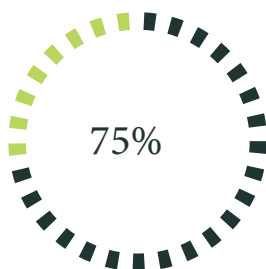


# Partnership and Collaboration

## Collaborative Efforts

IFCA collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders including academic institutions, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector partners. These collaborations enhance our capacity to innovate and implement effective solutions. Some of our key partners include:

- **Academic Institutions:** Collaborating with universities to advance research and knowledge sharing.
- **Government Agencies:** Working with ministries of agriculture, environment, and health to integrate climate adaptation strategies into national plans.
- **Non-Governmental Organizations:** Partnering with NGOs to implement community-based projects and scale up successful initiatives.
- **Private Sector:** Engaging with companies in the agriculture and food industries to develop and promote sustainable practices.



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We partner with people ready to forget ‘ordinary’. We stand shoulder to shoulder with brands and businesses to create transformations that set powerful futures in motion.

## Contact us

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