

# 22 Calls to Action

Global Assembly  
on Food and Climate

March 2026

Between January and March 2026 over 42 hours of small and large group discussions, 105 people from 60 countries and territories, selected by geographic and demographic lottery, deliberated on the topic of food systems and climate change. They responded to the framing question:

**“ What changes, if any, should we make to how we grow, share, eat and use food, so that everyone has enough to nourish themselves, while tackling the causes and impacts of climate change?”**

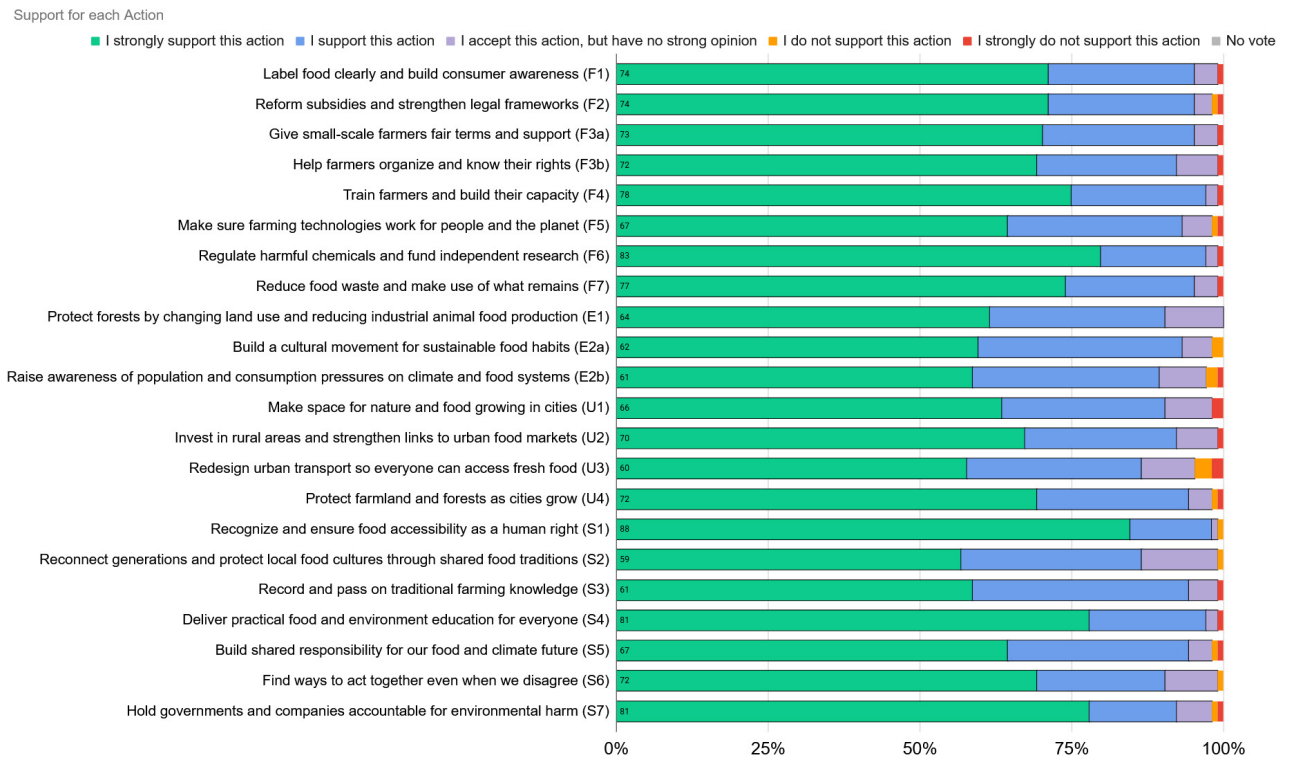
This document provides an early summary of the main outputs from these deliberations.

## **Calls to Action: summaries**

The Assembly Members' collective vision was used to define a series of challenges and opportunities. Calls to Action to address these were developed across asynchronous working groups over several sessions, with synthesis occurring in between. A summary table of each Calls to Action is presented in this section, preceded by a chart showing the level of Assembly Member support for each. The full Calls to Action are detailed in the following section.

## Level of support for each Call to Action

All Calls to Action received a high level of support during the Assembly's final vote. Active support (green + blue) is well over 80% for every Action, and acceptance (green + blue + purple) is at least 95% for every Action.



# Theme 1: Food Systems and Agriculture

## F1: Label food clearly and build consumer awareness

**Responding to challenge:** How can we make it easier for consumer preferences to drive the adoption of more sustainable farming methods?

Who	What	How	When
Governments (all levels)	Require clear sustainability labels on food products; give preference to agroecological food in public procurement	Laws mandating sustainability labelling; procurement policies favouring agroecological food in schools, hospitals, and canteens	2–5 years
Regional authorities & certification bodies	Develop agroecology certification schemes; set shared standards across regions	Create regional certification systems consistent across regions, giving added value to small-scale producers	2–5 years
Agricultural cooperatives	Raise awareness among farmers and customers; help farmers access markets	Member outreach; support for farmers adopting sustainable practices	Immediate

**Why:** Consumers cannot support eco-friendly farming without clear labels. Strong certification creates market demand for sustainably produced food; key to the Assembly’s target of at least 60% of global food to come from agroecological farming.

## F2: Reform subsidies and strengthen legal frameworks

**Responding to challenge:** How could we reform public funding and subsidies so that sustainable farming is rewarded, and small and local farmers are supported rather than large industrial farms?

Who	What	How	When
National/state governments, environmental agencies	Reform subsidies so at least 75% rewards sustainable practices; remove minimum farm size requirements	Link payments to verified sustainable practices; transparent public registries; cross-departmental coordination; yearly reporting; meaningful penalties for missed targets	Begin within 1 year
National/state governments	Prioritise small and medium-scale farmers; simplify subsidy applications; involve communities directly in funding decisions	Legal recognition for small farmers; streamlined applications; direct community involvement in planning and distribution	Within 1 year
National/state governments	Develop long-term climate-friendly food plans; progressively redirect fossil fuel subsidies to renewables	Public reporting against measurable targets that go beyond short political cycles	2–5 years
UN, FAO, World Bank, regional bodies	Review trade rules to protect countries reforming subsidies; provide climate finance and technical support	International trade coordination; climate finance especially for lower-income and fragile states; public-private energy partnerships	2–5 years
Governments / private sector	Tax large commercial agricultural companies; fund support for small-scale and sustainable farmers	Tax mechanisms; financial incentives and technical support for small-scale farmers adopting sustainable practices	Within 1 year
Local farm organisations, cooperatives, international development partners	Channel support locally where national government capacity is limited	Route funding through local farm organisations and cooperatives in fragile contexts	Within 1 year

**Why:** Public money mostly flows to large industrial farms. Redirecting subsidies and strengthening laws is essential to building a fair and resilient food system, and in line with this Assembly's preference for funding small scale, agroecological farmers.

### F3a: Give small-scale farmers fair terms and support

**Responding to challenge:** How can we make sure small-scale farmers can access land, seeds, and markets on fair terms and get the practical support they need to farm well and earn a fair living?

Who	What	How	When
Governments	Ensure fair access to land, seeds, and markets; limit land concentration; support fair redistribution	Legal limits on land concentration; publicly accessible seed banks; fair land redistribution where large ownership blocks small farmers	Within 1 year
Governments	Regulate intermediaries; guarantee minimum prices; require businesses to contribute to the sustainable farming transition	Licensing and monitoring of intermediaries; direct-purchase platforms so farmers get a fairer share of value; anti-corruption enforcement	Within 1 year
Governments & financial institutions	Provide financial and mental health support for sustainable transition and climate shocks	Microfinance tools and grants tailored to small-scale farmers; cooperative formation support	Within 1 year
Governments & international organisations	Invest in infrastructure small-scale farmers need to reach markets	Fund transport, storage, and irrigation suited to local needs; prioritise the Global South	2–5 years

**Why:** Large corporations control supply chains, making fair competition impossible for small farmers. Proper support enables farmers to invest in their land, feed their communities, and put social and environmental needs first.

### F3b: Help farmers organise and know their rights

**Responding to challenge:** How can we make sure small-scale farmers can access land, seeds, and markets on fair terms and get the practical support they need to farm well and earn a fair living?

Who	What	How	When
Governments	Legally recognise farmers' organisations and unions; fund rights education focused on rural and remote areas	Formal legal recognition of local and regional farmer organisations; funded rights education programmes for remote communities	Within 1 year
Governments & farmer organisations	Support spaces for knowledge sharing, collective demands, and advocacy; connect groups nationally and internationally	Create forums for knowledge sharing and solidarity; link groups to national and international networks	Within 1 year
Press & media organisations	Cover the challenges and value of small-scale farming	Media coverage highlighting barriers facing small farmers and the value they provide	2–5 years
Educational institutions & student organisations	Engage young people in farmer rights and advocacy	Student involvement in farmer rights awareness and advocacy	2–5 years

**Why:** Organized and legally recognized farmers gain real bargaining power, fairer access to support, and a stronger voice in shaping the policies that affect them.

## F4: Train farmers and build their capacity

**Responding to challenge:** How could we ensure that farmers have the knowledge, skills, and support they need to adapt to climate change and a modernising agricultural sector?

Who	What	How	When
Governments & NGOs	Fund and deliver training in sustainable farming and climate adaptation; focus on smallholders, older farmers, and those with less formal education	Farmer schools focused on climate resilience; subsidised eco-friendly inputs; agricultural machinery and improved seed access; reduce post-harvest loss	Within 1 year
Agricultural cooperatives & farmer organisations	Run peer learning workshops, community events, and mentorship programmes between experienced and younger farmers	Regular workshops; food festivals; farmer competitions; mentoring; support for older farmers passing on land and knowledge	Within 1 year
Educational institutions & universities	Two-way knowledge exchange between researchers and farming communities; connect schools to local farms	Students and researchers into communities; farmers' practical knowledge into research and teaching; school procurement from local farms	2–5 years
Governments & NGOs	Help farmers access digital tools, climate forecasting, and rural innovation hubs	Digital advisory platforms; mobile training services; farmer-led research; rural innovation hubs	Within 1 year
Governments	Support income diversification for small farms	Programmes for e.g. agro-tourism, beekeeping, intercropping, and value-added products	2–5 years

**Why:** Small farmers lack the training to farm sustainably as the climate changes, traditional knowledge is disappearing, and younger generations are not being prepared; all of which threatens long-term food security.

## F5: Make sure farming technologies work for people and the planet

**Responding to challenge:** How could we make sure agricultural technologies are governed well and deployed in ways that are fair to farmers and good for the environment?

Who	What	How	When
National & local governments	Create inclusive oversight bodies for farming technology decisions; balance technological advancement with environmental protection	Oversight bodies with equal parts scientists, farmers, and civil society; meet at least annually; assess which technologies suit local conditions	Immediate
Governments & international food and agriculture organisations	Organise regular international forums to share knowledge on farming technologies across countries	International meetings to identify needs, share findings, and coordinate support; inclusive, deliberative model	Immediate
Governments & independent institutions	Shift research funding from industry to independent bodies; fund independent research on pesticide and fertiliser impacts	Redirect funding away from companies profiting from pesticides or fertilisers; independent findings feed directly into regulation and bans	Immediate

**Why:** New technologies can harm communities and environments when those affected have no say; and industry-funded research cannot always be trusted. Inclusive decision-making ensures technology serves everyone.

## F6: Regulate harmful chemicals and fund independent research

**Responding to challenge:** How could we protect people and the planet from the pollution and health damage caused by industrial farming and hazardous chemicals?

Who	What	How	When
UN & international bodies	Coordinate consistent chemical safety standards across countries; set shared standards for food transport emissions	International coordination mechanisms for chemical regulation and cleaner transport standards	2–5 years
National governments	Reduce and ban dangerous chemicals and plastics; tax pollution based on harm; ban the most toxic substances	Legislation and enforcement; taxes proportional to environmental and health damage; findings from independent research used to guide bans	2–5 years
Independent research institutions	Research health and environmental impacts of agricultural chemicals, free from industry influence	Independent research funding; findings used to guide regulation and identify the most toxic substances	2–5 years
Governments & NGOs	Help farmers adopt low-cost alternatives to harmful chemicals and crop burning	Guidance and incentives for safer alternatives; reduce agricultural air pollution	2–5 years

**Why:** Industrial farming chemicals pollute water and cause illness; and research is often industry-funded, creating bias. Clear rules and independent science are needed to drive change toward cleaner food systems.

## F7: Reduce food waste and make use of what remains

**Responding to challenge:** How could we reduce food waste at every stage, from farm to table, and make sure that what cannot be used is managed safely and responsibly?

Who	What	How	When
Governments	Limit food overstocking by retailers; improve date labelling; redirect safe unsold food to food banks	Rules limiting retail store size and product volumes; clearer use-by and best-before labels; food bank redistribution schemes; public awareness campaigns	Within 1 year
Governments & businesses	Invest in storage, refrigeration, and transport to prevent losses; use digital tools to match supply and demand	Infrastructure to reduce waste before food reaches consumers; digital tracking systems; platforms connecting consumers directly with producers	2–5 years
Farmers	Compost agricultural waste on-site; use traditional circular practices	On-site composting; biochar production; crop waste as animal feed; animal dung for biogas	Within 1 year
Supermarkets, distributors & private companies	Collect and convert food waste into energy or useful materials; establish biogas partnerships	Collection systems for composting or processing; biogas partnerships with farmers; government tax relief for circular practices	2–5 years

**Why:** Food waste squanders the land, water, and energy used to produce it. Preventing waste and treating it as a resource cuts costs, reduces harm, and builds a fairer food system.

## Theme 2: Environment, Climate and Nature

### E1: Protect forests by changing land use and reducing industrial animal food production

**Responding to challenge:** How could we eat and produce food in ways that stop destroying forests and give nature a chance to recover?

Who	What	How	When
National/state governments & agricultural departments	Stop forest conversion for livestock; set measurable limits on livestock per person or area; actively reforest land used for livestock	Laws designating livestock zones with quotas; measurable land use targets tracked and reported publicly; enforcement of conversion bans	Within 1 year
Governments of major agricultural exporting countries & major global food companies	Stop importing or selling food linked to deforestation; require deforestation-free supply chains	Legally binding supply chain tracking for beef, palm oil, soy, and cocoa; trade penalties and financial sanctions for non-compliance	Within 1 year
Governments	Fund farmers to switch from forest-clearing practices to agroforestry and intercropping	Training, subsidies, and farmer-to-farmer knowledge sharing; tree-replacement rules; encourage farm labour over heavy machinery where it requires cutting trees	2–5 years
Indigenous/tribal communities & local village councils	Participate as stakeholders in land use planning and monitoring	Inclusion in land use decisions; recognition of local conservation knowledge and monitoring role	Within 1 year

**Why:** Industrial livestock farming is the main driver of deforestation, and this Assembly has voted to restore 5% of forests by 2100. Laws targeting land use and supply chains address the root cause, since diet change or farming shifts alone will not be enough while deforestation remains profitable.

### E2a: Build a cultural movement for sustainable food habits

**Responding to challenge:** How could we feed a growing world population without destroying the land, water, and nature we depend on?

Who	What	How	When
Social media influencers & high-profile public figures	Launch aspirational campaigns making sustainable eating and reducing food waste popular and desirable	High-quality, positive social media content showing the benefits of sustainable food habits	Within 1 year
High-income & high-status communities	Act as visible early adopters to build social proof for sustainable habits	Demonstrate that sustainable living is desirable, not a sacrifice; build a model others want to follow	Within 1 year
Community educators	Deliver on-the-ground education following up digital campaigns, tailored to specific community needs	Community workshops complementing online campaigns; reach communities that organisations cannot physically reach	Within 1 year
Youth organisations & private sector	Support and amplify the cultural movement	Participation in campaigns; funding and support for community education activities	Within 1 year

**Why:** Making sustainable habits feel desirable rather than sacrificial, and spreading that message from influential groups outward, can shift cultural norms at scale and reduce pressure on food systems and the environment.

## E2b: Raise awareness of population and consumption pressures on climate and food systems

**Responding to challenge:** How could we feed a growing world population without destroying the land, water, and nature we depend on?

Who	What	How	When
National governments & health and education ministries	Run education campaigns on links between population growth, consumption, food systems, land, water, and climate	Country-specific campaigns reflecting local demographic context; joint planning and knowledge-sharing between governments and community groups	2–5 years
Governments & international health organisations	Ensure voluntary family planning services are accessible and affordable for all who want them	Rights-based, voluntary services; no coercive targets; access to information treated as personal empowerment	2–5 years
Ministries of education	Integrate reproductive health and sustainability connections into school curricula	Age-appropriate curricula; digital and web-based tools where in-person provision is limited	2–5 years
Civil society, community leaders & local authorities	Normalise conversations about reproductive health in communities where they remain culturally sensitive	Sensitive community dialogue; joint planning with local authorities; respect for cultural context	Long term

**Why:** A growing population and high-consumption lifestyles increase pressure on food systems, land, water, and climate. Education and awareness, rather than population control, are the foundation for a sustainable future that respects cultural values and individual choice.

## Theme 3: Urban Life and the Built Environment

### U1: Make space for nature and food growing in cities

**Responding to challenge:** How could we make space for nature and food growing within cities?

Who	What	How	When
City, local & national governments	Require green spaces, food-growing areas, and nature infrastructure in all new developments; open unused land and rooftops for food growing; prioritise lower-income areas	Reform planning laws to make green infrastructure a standard requirement; make abandoned and government-owned land available for community gardens; dedicated funding and tax incentives for priority areas	1–5 years
Urban developers & planners	Embed green infrastructure into all new city development; reduce urban heat; manage stormwater; protect existing trees	Use existing structures over new construction; incorporate stormwater features; climate adaptation built into all new development	2–5 years
Businesses & building owners	Create food-growing or nature spaces in existing buildings and on unused land	Tax breaks, grants, and better loan terms; public-private partnerships; large food companies contribute to urban growing projects in return for government incentives	Within 1 year
Schools & NGOs	Integrate food growing into school and community education; run public awareness campaigns	School garden programmes; community food growing; awareness campaigns on growing food in small spaces	Within 1 year

**Why:** As more people live in cities, many lose connection to food and nature. Changing planning rules and providing incentives can increase fresh food access, cool cities, and strengthen communities.

### U2: Invest in rural areas and strengthen links to urban food markets

**Responding to challenge:** How could we bridge the divide between rural and urban areas so that food moves freely and people don't feel forced to leave?

Who	What	How	When
National & local governments	Invest in rural infrastructure (roads, schools, hospitals, digital systems); reduce rural-urban wage gap; create opportunities for young people; extend social protection to older farmers; compensate farmers for conserving land	Dedicated public funding for rural roads and services; review wage policies; social protection schemes; regular reporting and independent oversight to ensure funding reaches communities	Immediate
Transport companies, agricultural societies, community groups	Provide affordable shared transport collecting produce from farmers; coordinate local collection points to reduce travel distances	Partnership schemes between transport companies and farmers; shared low-cost routes; community coordination of local distribution networks	2–5 years

**Why:** Making sustainable habits feel desirable rather than sacrificial, and spreading that message from influential groups outward, can shift cultural norms at scale and reduce pressure on food systems and the environment.

### U3: Redesign urban transport so everyone can access fresh food

**Responding to challenge:** How could we redesign urban transport and food access so that all residents, regardless of income, can easily reach fresh, affordable food?

Who	What	How	When
City & local governments, mayors, transport planners	Expand public transport; improve pedestrian routes to food markets; locate grocery stores and community canteens within easy reach, especially for lower-income areas	Operate bus systems; improve walking and cycling infrastructure; coordinate housing, transport, and planning so food markets are reachable without a car	Within 1 year
Local governments	Support food delivery and mobile food markets for residents who cannot easily travel	Public funding for mobile food markets; delivery programmes for elderly, disabled, and low-income residents	Within 1 year

**Why:** When cities are built around cars and public transport is weak, low-income residents cannot easily reach fresh, affordable food. Better transport and smarter market locations reduce inequality and improve access for everyone.

### U4: Protect farmland and forests as cities grow

**Responding to challenge:** When a city needs to grow, how do we decide what land is worth protecting and what can be built on?

Who	What	How	When
Local & national governments	Designate clearly which land must be protected; enforce regulations against unplanned building; stop conversion of forests to farmland and farmland to urban areas	Enforce existing land-use laws with meaningful financial penalties; proactive 5-year planning process to map and protect land before development begins; strong oversight	Within 1 year
Local governments with village committees	Consult communities when deciding which land to protect; hold regular, meaningful community dialogues	Community dialogues including local and village committees; educate communities, students, and developers about land protection rules	Within 1 year

**Why:** Uncontrolled building swallows farmland and forests, threatening local food production and destroying the natural benefits that healthy land provides, such as clean water and flood protection

## Theme 4: Society, Culture and Wellbeing

### S1: Recognise and ensure food accessibility as a human right

**Responding to challenge:** How could we ensure that everyone, regardless of their background, wealth, or where they live, has reliable access to enough healthy, affordable food?

Who	What	How	When
National & local governments, UN & international organisations	Formally recognise food as a human right in national and international law; translate principle into practice with clear accountability mechanisms	Laws treating food as a right not a commodity; measures to stabilise prices and prevent excessive profit-making; community-led systems to identify families in need; international coordination on food access crises	Immediate
Governments	Stabilise food prices; provide targeted financial support; establish clear channels for community voices to shape policy	Food vouchers and assistance programmes; investment in local food infrastructure (storage, supply chains); channels for community dialogue to influence policy	Immediate
Governments & international organisations	Monitor hunger; improve transparency on food availability, distribution, and prices	Public digital platforms showing food prices, availability, and hunger data, with farmers contributing to price information	2–5 years
Food companies, suppliers & retailers	Reduce food waste; support fair distribution of surplus food	Digital tracking; clearer date labelling; redirect safe surplus to food banks and community kitchens	2–5 years

**Why:** Millions go hungry not because there is too little food, but because the food system is built around profit. Recognising food as a human right is the foundation for transparent, coordinated systems that ensure food reaches everyone.

### S2: Reconnect generations and protect local food cultures through shared food traditions

**Responding to challenge:** As communities become less connected around food and shared traditions fade, what should we do and how can we bring people and traditions back together?

Who	What	How	When
National & local governments	Fund community food events and festivals; formally recognise local and traditional foods as intangible cultural heritage	Specific government funding for events; dedicated media programming celebrating traditional foods; subsidies for food festivals	Within 1 year
Employers & employment policymakers	Protect time outside work for family and community life	Workplace guidelines safeguarding shared meal time and community participation	Within 1 year
Markets, restaurants, schools & universities	Feature traditional and locally produced foods in menus and curricula; treat food culture as a core subject	Traditional and local foods in school, university, and restaurant menus; food culture emphasised in curricula	Within 1 year
Governments & market actors	Reduce production, transport, and packaging costs for local food producers so they can compete with imported alternatives	Bring government and market actors together to reduce costs; help local products compete on price and shelf appeal	Within 1 year

**Why:** Food traditions carry real nutritional, social, and cultural value which, once lost, are very hard to recover. Shared meals and food traditions can rebuild community bonds, strengthen resilience, and preserve cultural heritage.

### S3: Record and pass on traditional farming knowledge

**Responding to challenge:** How do we preserve traditional food and farming knowledge before it is lost?

Who	What	How	When
Universities & research institutions	Record traditional farming and food knowledge from elders — crops, seed saving, water practices, medicinal plants, food preservation	Oral histories, films, demonstrations; seed banks; written, filmed, and digital public knowledge libraries; focus on elders who learned outside formal education	Immediate
Schools & governments	Integrate traditional farming knowledge into school curricula and community training alongside modern practice	Elders teaching alongside formal educators; practical and community-based learning; government subsidies and media coverage for food festivals and living traditions	Within 1 year
FAO, international regional bodies	Fund preservation efforts, especially in communities where knowledge is most at risk, including diaspora and immigrant communities	Dedicated international funding; targeted support for diaspora communities to reconnect with their food heritage	Within 1 year

**Why:** Traditional farming knowledge is disappearing as older generations retire. Once lost, it is very hard to recover. Preserving it strengthens cultural identity and helps communities adapt to climate change

### S4: Deliver practical food and environment education for everyone

**Responding to challenge:** How can we make environmental learning and practical life skills a normal, accessible part of life for everyone, no matter where they live?

Who	What	How	When
Governments & education ministries	Integrate food, climate, and sustainability into national curricula; invest in digital access for rural communities; enforce environmental laws so education leads to real action	Hands-on learning; teacher training; fair teacher pay; adequate school funding; digital infrastructure for rural communities	Immediate
Schools & teachers	Deliver practical food and environmental learning in classrooms and communities; encourage students to share learning at home	School gardens; community workshops; farmer partnerships	Immediate
NGOs, community organisations, UNESCO, UNICEF	Support community-based food and environment education for all ages, including those who have left formal education	Community workshops; non-formal adult education; farmer partnerships	Immediate

**Why:** Many people grow up without understanding how food choices affect the environment. Practical education builds the knowledge and skills needed for better decisions and greater climate resilience.

## S5: Build shared responsibility for our food and climate future

**Responding to challenge:** Who is responsible for driving change, and how do we build a sense of shared responsibility for the future?

Who	What	How	When
Governments (all levels)	Create transparent governance and economic incentives that reward sustainable choices	Reward sustainable choices through taxes, subsidies, and transparent public reporting	Within 1 year
Community organisations	Run local projects showing how everyday actions connect to food and climate outcomes	Local food and environmental projects with visible community impact	Within 1 year
Governments & educators	Update education to link food, climate, and collective responsibility; encourage active community participation in local decisions	Curriculum updates; foster community participation in shaping local food and environmental decisions	Within 1 year

**Why:** Shared goals encourage people to change behavior and support wider change. Education, local action, fair incentives, and transparent governance can help societies move from short-term thinking to lasting solutions.

## S6: Find ways to act together even when we disagree

**Responding to challenge:** How can we act together when we disagree?

Who	What	How	When
All individuals & community members	Engage in open dialogue to find shared solutions; raise awareness that diverse viewpoints lead to stronger solutions	Inclusive spaces for respectful dialogue across diverse perspectives; ensure all affected groups have a meaningful voice	Immediate
Community leaders & organisations	Ensure accountability so dialogue leads to real policies and action	Accountability mechanisms linking community dialogue to concrete policies and national follow-through	Immediate
Governments & international organisations	Enable conversations between people from different countries on shared challenges like climate change	Establish and support forums for international dialogue	Immediate

**Why:** Disagreement over how to change food systems can stall all progress. Inclusive dialogue builds trust and ensures diverse voices are heard, turning shared goals into fair and widely supported action.

## S7: Hold governments and companies accountable for environmental harm

**Responding to challenge:** Why do global promises so rarely become real change?

Who	What	How	When
International bodies (UN)	Establish rules requiring countries to fund restoration after war-related environmental damage	International rules and financial penalties for war-related environmental destruction	Within 1 year
National governments	Conduct regular, publicly transparent independent audits of polluting industries; enforce meaningful consequences for violations	Environmental audits with public transparency; meaningful penalties for violations	Within 1 year
Citizens & civil society	Use democratic tools and buying choices to hold governments and companies to account	Voting, public pressure, anti-corruption action; consumer choices to make companies compete on environmental responsibility	Within 1 year

**Why:** Wars devastate soil and land for decades. Corruption and weak enforcement mean climate commitments are often ignored. Financial penalties, audits, and democratic pressure are essential to deliver justice for people today and future generations.



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