



WHAT IS FOOD FOR CHANGE

Food for Change is the international **fundraising** and **awareness** raising campaign that Slow Food has decided to launch in Turin on the occasion of the XII edition of Terra Madre Salone del Gusto.

It will run until **December 31, 2018**, but donation activities will remain active after this date.

The development of the Food For Change Campaign will take place through offline and online activities. at Terra Madre Salone del Gusto, it will be possible to get more information and to support the Campaign through donations in the five Food for Change thematic areas. Various gifts will be available when donations are made.

The goal of the campaign is to stop climate change through concrete actions that can be summarized in three different steps: **INFORM, COMMIT WITH A CONCRETE GESTURE, DONATE.**

- 1) **INFORM:** Inform the vast public (the Slow Food network, members, supporters, and others) about the link between food and climate change, explaining how our choices regarding the production and consumption of food have a real impact on our ecosystems, on the climate, and on the future of the planet.
- 2) **COMMIT:** Invite the public (Slow Food network, members, sympathizers, and others) to take concrete action related to food that positively impacts on the climate.
 - From October 16 to 22, the invitation is to choose and share (on social media/email) at least one of the three #FoodForChange challenges: Eat local food for a week, do not eat meat for a week, do not waste food for a week.
 - November 1 to December 31 is "producer month": The network will mobilize to create events to pay tribute to the real climate heroes, and to raise funds.

Based on the number of people who take part in these challenges, it will be possible to calculate a numerical result that indicates how much CO₂ has been saved thanks to the collective commitment.

- 3) **DONATE:** Gathering funds for the over 10,000 Slow Food projects will help to ensure continuity and to start more projects around the world. Supporting local production systems that protect biodiversity, strengthening the Slow Food network, and choosing good, clean and fair food means respecting the planet and guaranteeing a better future by stopping climate change.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Scientists and climatologists have no doubt that if measures are not taken to reduce global CO₂ emissions by 2100, the Earth's temperature could rise by around 4 ° C. The effects of such a rise in temperature would be alarming: Rainfall would become less frequent but much more intense and harmful, creating extreme weather events. Some estimates predict that one billion people could be left without water; two billion would go hungry; and the production of corn, rice, and wheat would fall by 2% every 10 years. In addition, around 187 million people could be displaced as their home territories become submerged.

Scholars agree that we absolutely must work together to keep temperatures from rising more than 2 ° C in order to maintain acceptable living conditions.



(Data from IPCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the scientific forum formed in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to study the global warming: It is the reference point in this field of study).

Food and climate change

- Globally, food production is responsible for one fifth (21%) of greenhouse gas emissions (Ar5 IPCC 2014; The state of food and agriculture by FAO 2015).
- According to the FAO, emissions generated by the application of synthetic fertilizers in 2012 accounted for 14% of agricultural emissions. This is the fastest growing source of emissions in the agricultural sector, having increased by around 45% since 2001 (FAO 2015, Food Wastage Footprint: Impacts on Natural Resources).
- The production of animal feed occupies 40% of world agricultural production (FAO, 2012).
- The FAO estimates that, to date, 36% of world cereal production on average is used to feed meat and dairy animals—regional figures range from 4% in India to 65% in the United States. Furthermore, the creation of new pastures for livestock is one of the main causes of deforestation, especially in Latin America: From 1990-2005, 71% of deforestation in Argentina, Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela resulted from the growing demand for pasture (FAO 2012, Livestock and Landscape).
- Today, around 20% of pastures are considered degraded due to over-exploitation, compaction, and erosion. The data is especially alarming for arid lands, where inappropriate livestock management policies contribute to desertification (FAO 2012, Livestock and Landscape).

Meat consumption and climate

Over the past 50 years, meat consumption has quadrupled:

- 45 million tonnes in 1950
- 300 million tonnes in 2018
- 500 million tonnes in 2050

- On average, each EU citizen consumes 80.6 kg of meat each year. According to WHO, a reduction to 25 kg would be sufficient, and halving this amount would be a victory for our health and for that of the planet ("World Livestock 2011: Livestock in Food Security", FAO, 2011).
- According to the WHO, the ideal amount of meat for an optimal diet is 500 grams per week (i.e. 2 kg per month, or 24 kg per year).
- Over 95% of the meat that we consume comes from industrial farms that are collectively responsible for 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions ("Tackling Climate Change Through Livestock", FAO, 2013).
- Producing just one kg of beef costs 36.4 kg of CO₂, equivalent to what a car emits during a journey of 250 km; and no less than 15 thousand liters of water ("Meat is murder on the environment", Daniele Fanelli, 2007, New Scientist).

Food waste and climate change

- Every year, across the globe, 1.3 billion tonnes of food, or a third of total food production, go to waste. This overproduction uses up 1.4 billion hectares of land (almost 30% of the world's agricultural area) and a quantity of water equivalent to the annual flow of the Volga River; and emits 3.3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent.



- According to the FAO, 54% of wastes takes place "upstream," during production, harvesting, and storage; and 46% takes place "downstream," during transformation, distribution, and consumption. In general, in developing countries, this is a more effective experiment. Generally, waste in developing countries takes place for the most part during production, while in medium- and high-income regions, more of the waste occurs at the retail or consumer level.

Climate migrants

Climate migrants are fast becoming the human face of climate change. According to a World Bank study on sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America (which together contain 55% of the population of developing countries), over 140 million people in these regions could become internally displaced by 2050—and this is without taking armed conflict into account.

It is estimated that, by 2050, there will be:

- 86 million internal climate migrants in sub-Saharan Africa
- 40 million internal climate migrants in South Asia
- 17 million internal climate migrants in Latin America

In Ethiopia, a predominantly agricultural country with high population growth (up 85% by 2050), the collapse of crops is the primary cause of migration. Bangladesh is weakened in particular by the erosion of its coastal areas and by difficulties in accessing drinking water. In Mexico, on the other hand, urban centers are being flooded with people leaving rural areas affected by the effects of global warming.

(Data from *Groundswell: Preparing for Internal Climate Migration*, World Bank Report 2018 on Climate Migration).

TESTIMONIES FROM SLOW FOOD COMMUNITIES

Searching for water in the Chalbi Desert

In recent times our land has been afflicted by both extreme drought, flash floods, roads construction and oil exploration, putting people, livestock and communities at risk. Getting water for my animals is the greatest challenge in my life.

*Tumal Orto Galdibe
Pastoralist
Kenya*

Agroecology is Cuba's hope in the face of hurricanes

Displacement, damage to buildings, diminished crops, and radical changes in planting periods are just some of the effects that we farmers are experiencing. And this means economic uncertainty and daily difficulties in carrying out our work. But I want to be positive. If I think about what the future of Cuba may be, I have no doubts. Agroecology, the observation of nature, and Slow Food are the hopes that I keep.

*Jose Casimiro Gonzalez
Farmer
Cuba*



HOW TO SUPPORT THE FOOD FOR CHANGE CAMPAIGN

All Slow Food management and staff who have public visibility in institutional and non-institutional events, interviews, and radio and television programs are strongly invited to help spread the Food for Change Campaign.

Spreading the messages of the Campaign is essential for effective fundraising.

"The food you choose can save the planet: Let's stop climate change together."

All information on the campaign and about how to donate is available at <https://www.slowfood.com/food-for-change-ita/>

To donate, visit <https://donate.slowfood.com/it/>

ARTICLE 1: Searching for water in the Chalbi Desert

In recent times our land has been afflicted by both extreme drought, flash floods, roads construction and oil exploration, putting people, livestock and communities at risk. Getting water for my animals is the greatest challenge in my life.



Tumal Orto Galdibe
Pastoralist
Kenya

My name is Tumal Orto Galdibe. I am an indigenous pastoralist from the Chalbi Desert in northern Kenya, located at the foot of the Hurri Hills Grazing Fields near Maikona Village in Marsabit County, and I make a living raising goats, sheep and camels. This is my livelihood, and my life, as it was of my ancestors for the last 235 years. I hope the next generations will be able to continue this traditional way of life, too.

But in recent times our land has been afflicted by both extreme drought, flash floods, roads construction and oil exploration, putting people, livestock and communities at risk.

Getting water for my animals is the greatest challenge in my life. We trek long distances, up to 100km to find shallow wells for the goats. The weakest animals and the babies are sometimes left behind if the journey is too hard. There has been inadequate rainfall for the last 17 years, which has devastated the pastures. New and mysterious diseases spread among the animals, and pests are becoming more resistant. Annual crop failures make it harder to feed the animals too, which means there is less milk and less meat for us to sell. Household incomes for herding and pastoral families are declining. Make no mistake: climate change here is real, and it is affecting us now.

We can't expect the situation to get any easier. It will get worse.

To cope with these harsh conditions, we are having to trek ever further with our livestock from their primary grazing fields. We are separating the males and females of the herds at intervals, as we can't afford for new animals to be born during the dry season. We build underground catchments in the grazing fields to minimize the cost of hiring water trucks.

Meanwhile, more and more boys are choosing an idle, urban lifestyle rather than following in their fathers' footsteps. They often see herding and pastoralism as a way of life that does not offer enough opportunities. The children who do remain with their herder fathers do good work, and from the age of 15-35 they are actively engaged in taking the animals to find water and pasture over long distances.

But with life becoming harder, and droughts becoming longer, I fear our entire way of life could one day die out.

The livestock keepers will not adapt to the urban lifestyle. My fear is that they will turn from pastoralists into climate refugees.

Tumal Orto Galdibe

ARTICLE 2: Agroecology is Cuba's hope in the face of hurricanes

I am José Casimiro Gonzalez, I come from Cuba, and I have a farm, the Finca del Medio.

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On 25 May 2018 a violent subtropical storm, which formed in the Caribbean, unleashed itself on Cuba. Alberto—this is the name of the storm—violently struck the eastern provinces of the island: Cienfuegos, Sancti Spiritus, and Villa Clara. Seven people were killed, two went missing, and there was significant damage to the structures and crops of many farms, including mine.

Alberto arrived after a long, abnormal storm season that began in 2017. It is the visible result of climate changes that now alternate between long periods of drought and increasingly violent and early hurricane seasons. And that cause serious problems for the agriculture of Cuba. Since the 90s, after long years of monoculture of sugar cane and tobacco, and of dependence on foreign countries, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the peasants have started diversified organic farms, creating a vibrant network of cooperatives.

Displacement, damage to buildings, diminished crops, and radical changes in planting periods are just some of the effects that we farmers are experiencing. And this means economic uncertainty and daily difficulties in carrying out our work.

But I want to be positive. If I think about what the future of Cuba may be, I have no doubts. Agroecology, the observation of nature, and Slow Food are the hopes that I keep.

José Casimiro Gonzalez

Online: <https://www.slowfood.com/hurricane-season-cuba-climate-change/>

A December report from the UCS (Union of the Concerned Scientists) states that climate change will not necessarily be responsible for more hurricanes in the future, but will dramatically strengthen their intensity in terms of winds and precipitation. Rising sea temperatures will increase the risk of more violent storms, a phenomenon that is already widely documented.

As is pointed out in the seventh motion of the Slow Food International Congress, which addresses climate change, the unusual and violent weather phenomena that we are experiencing have an effect on the global food system, beginning with the challenges that they present to small-scale farmers and producers whose lives are inextricably linked to the lands where they live and work.