

## **FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT**

*(23 September 2021)*

Secretary General,

One of the lessons learned from the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic is that recovery should rest on the principles of social justice and ecology. This requires a global change of agrifood systems. We have to ensure healthy, nutritious and enough food for a growing population, compatible with a fully sustainable food production.

Producers ~~in~~ particular small producers ~~and~~ family farming play a key role in the transformation towards an economic, social and environmental sustainability.

It is necessary to support family farming, not only because it produces 80% of world food,



but also because it contributes to the economic and sociocultural fabric of rural areas, it articulates territories and manages natural resources in a much more efficient way.

This is why Spain has boosted the coalition for the Decade of Family Farming.

The role of women in national and household food security is key, due to their responsibility in food production. But girls and women are the ones suffering the most devastating effects of hunger.

Gender equality and empowerment of girls and women are not only fundamental to making human rights effective, but also to reducing poverty, to improving economic growth and to achieving a sustainable management of natural resources.



