

# Agriculture's Role in Transforming the Food System to Safeguard the Global Commons

**December 5th / 13:15 - 15:00 / African Group, G/77 and China Regional Group meeting room  
Sunrise Building, Second Floor**

Food is a key driver of pressures on the global commons. Today's food system is a main contributor to GHG emissions, deforestation and biodiversity loss, over-fishing, water stress, desertification and ecosystem degradation. Agriculture and land-use account for about 25% of human-caused GHG emissions, according to the IPCC.

There are negative impacts on the environment throughout the food chain, from production and processing, to distribution, consumption and post-consumption. Production of just three key global food commodities—palm oil, soy, and beef—is responsible for about 80% of tropical deforestation. Agriculture can and needs to be climate and environmentally friendly and be part of a productive landscapes strategy for countries. By doing so, huge pressures can be lifted on the environment and lead to more sustainable food production systems that contribute to the safeguarding of the Global Commons.

As the global population continues to grow in the coming decades to over 9 billion alongside shifting diets as the global middle class expands, the urgency to transform our food system is only becoming more pronounced.

Building on the GEF/IUCN Our Global Commons international dialogue in Washington DC in October, this event will bring together a multi-sectoral panel to discuss options for radically transform our food system needed to protect our planet and produce enough nutritious food for all.

**#globalcommons**

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13:15 – 13:25	Welcome and Framing	Naoko Ishii, CEO of the Global Environment Facility
13:25– 14:25	Panel Discussion	Inger Andersen, Director General World Conservation Union Jorge Armando Narváez, Undersecretary of Agriculture, Mexico Alexander Muller, TEEB Agri-Food Study Leader, tbc Private Sector, tbc
14:25 – 14:55	Facilitated Discussion with Audience	
14:55 – 15:00	Closing	Naoko Ishii, CEO of the Global Environment Facility

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