

## A food secure future: Building people and planet-centred strategies

### Un futuro con seguridad alimentaria: construyendo estrategias centradas en las personas y el planeta

7th Gathering of the ParlAmericas  
Parliamentary Network on Climate Change

15th Gathering of the ParlAmericas  
Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality



## Session 1

Parliamentary exchange on sustainable and gender-sensitive national efforts to end food insecurity and poverty



## Óscar Izquierdo Sandí

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Member of the Legislative Assembly,  
Costa Rica

Vice-President of the ParlAmericas  
Parliamentary Network on Climate Change



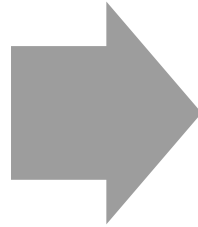
# Regional and Rural Development from an Intersectional Perspective and the Right to Water



# Legislation and rural and regional development contributes to supporting food security

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Rural Development Institute (Inder)



Development Banking System

- Social and economic well-being
- Promote diversification, income generation, employment, and the provision of public services.
- Citizen participation through territorial rural development councils.

**Priority sectors:** women, older adults, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, youth entrepreneurs, development associations, cooperatives, SME consortia, and projects in relatively less developed areas

## **Equitable access for women**

Design policies to neutralize inequalities (financing and non-financial support policies: access to credit, guarantees, conditions, and non-financial and business development services).

## Constitutional reform

***“Recognize and guarantee the human right to water access”***

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### **Article 50**

(2008)

“Every person has the basic and inalienable human right to access drinking water, as an essential good for life. Water is a national asset essential for protecting this human right. Its use, protection, sustainability, conservation, and exploitation will be governed by the law created for these purposes and priority will be given to the supply of drinking water for people and populations.”

**“In Latin America and the Caribbean, 25% of the population lacks access to drinking water, while 66% do not have access to safe sanitation services”**

**ECLAC, 2023**

# Governance of the water sector in Costa Rica

Ministry of the Environment  
and Energy  
(Minae)

Costa Rican  
Institute of  
Aqueducts and  
Sewers (AyA)

National  
Underground  
Water, Irrigation,  
and Drainage  
Service  
(Senara)

## **Framework Law on Water Resources**

Seeks to ensure the protection and conservation, as well as the sustainable use and exploitation, of continental, inland, marine, and groundwater water resources, considering water a resource of public domain and social interest.

# Gaps

- **Poverty (incomes) 2021**

National average: 23.4%  
383,000 households

Extreme poverty (p.e): 6.3%  
104,000 households



Source: National Household Survey 2021, INEC



# Entrepreneurship (micro-enterprises)

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66.4% of women who start businesses do so out of necessity and 30.8% do so out of opportunity.

Only 3.7% of women develop a business within the agricultural sector.

*“Empowering rural women as a collective is key for the wellbeing of people, families, and rural communities, as well as for general economic productivity”*

Actions in Costa Rica from the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger and Malnutrition and the Climate Change Network

## **Juan Federico Ruiz, M.Sc.**

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Representative, Uruguay



# Promoting Agroecological Production as a Good Practice

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The Implementation of Law 19.717



# Background

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Uruguay is a country of 3 million people that produces food for 30 million.

## Process for the development of the law

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2018 - Parliament enacted Law 19717.

Declaring agroecology to be of general interest and creating the Honourary Committee whose primary mandate is the development of the National Agroecology Plan.



# Law 19.717

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**Objective:** strengthen food security and sovereignty, contributing to care for the environment and generating benefits that improve the quality of life for all people in the Republic.

Creation of the Honourary Committee on the National Plan for Promoting Agroecological Production.

**Mandates:** Develop, coordinate the implementation of, and oversee the delivery of the Plan.



## The law's contribution to food security

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Public policy implemented by consensus and with popular legitimacy in the construction of the law, enabling its adoption with these same features by society.

# Challenges

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Strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of the law





## Session 2

Inclusive and innovative approaches  
to addressing hunger



## **Eduardo Benitez Paulin**

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Assistant Representative for Programs,  
FAO Office in Mexico



# The right to food

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Inclusive and innovative  
legislative practices

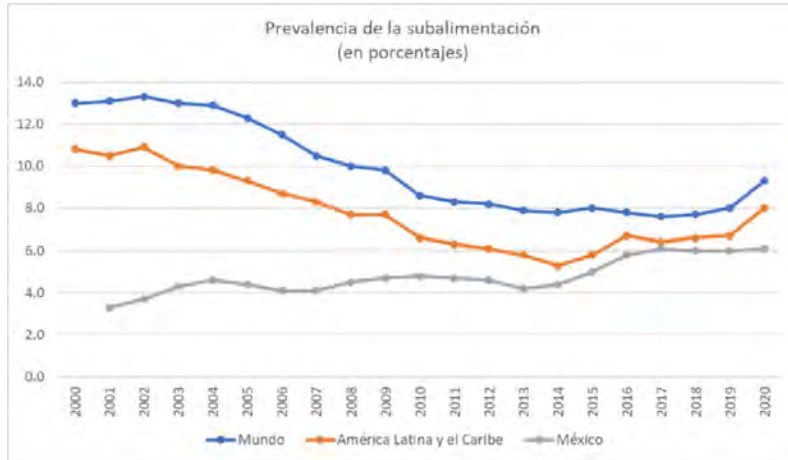


## Context - Sustainable Food Systems

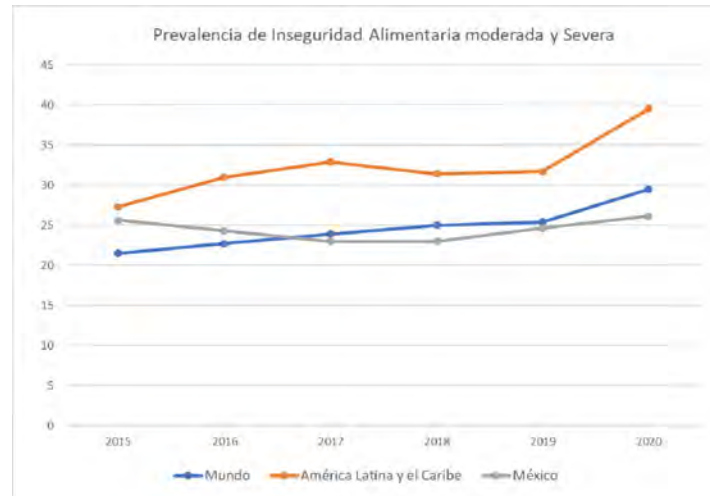
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- **+ 80 % of the environmental footprint comes from supply chains**
- **152 M children involved in child labour in supply chains**
- **Prioritizing sustainability improves financial returns by 20%**
- **A lack of sustainability in supply chains can result in losses of up to 45%**
- **By 2030, the demand for water will exceed available supply by 40%**
- **By 2030, unmanaged climate risks could generate annual losses of up to 1,200 mil USD**

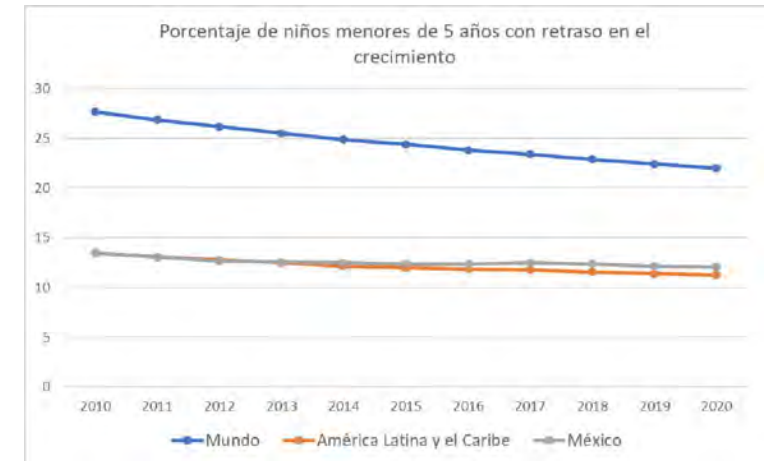
# Progress towards SDG2 – “Ending hunger”



## 2.1.1 Prevalence of malnutrition



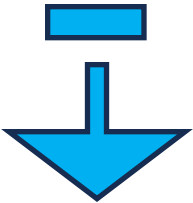
## 2.1.2 Prevalence of food insecurity





## 2.2.1 Prevalence of growth stunting for children under 5 years

# Costs and Affordability of a Healthy Diet

  **3.54 usd**  
**Person/day**



  **3.89 usd**  
**Person/day**

**Caribbean**  
3.89      4.23

**Mesoamerica**  
3.37      3.47

**South America**  
3.42      3.61

2017

2020

# Challenges in Sustainable Food Systems

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- ✓ Food security and nutrition
- ✓ Improving livelihoods, and
- ✓ Environmental sustainability

## An example \*

### Reducing the consumption of sugar by 10% and fats by 30%

- ❖ Changes in diets in the next 10 years, except for undernourished people
  - Per capita calories from sugar – 8 %
  - High Fructose Glucose Syrup - 16% and
  - From fats - 11%
- ❖ The prevalence of obesity would decrease by 46 % (638 M people)
- ❖ Overweight would decrease by 28% (1 000 M people)
- ❖ World spending on food - 35%, and - 3% on undernourishment (20 M people)

# Challenges in Sustainable Food Systems

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## ❖ In environmental terms

- Decrease of GHG emissions (agriculture) by 10% -532 MtCO<sub>2</sub>
- Impact on global land use would be small (-0.5%)

## ❖ Impacts on the livelihoods of producers

- 30% decrease in agricultural income
- Decreases in sugar prices (-28%),
- Poultry (-44%),
- Pork (-62%),
- Beef (-63%),
- Butter (-73%) and cheese (- 53%)



## Challenge/Suggestion for Sustainable Food Systems

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When designing laws, regulations, policies, food programs, it is necessary to consider both synergies and compensations and deliver a congruent combination that recognizes differences between groups (gender/youth), territories, chains/products, and benefits producers, agriculture, human health, and the environment.

## Chenille Humes

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Agronomist and  
Agricultural Youth Ambassador  
for Jamaica



# Addressing Food Hunger with Community Awareness and Innovations in Agriculture

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Responding to the Change from a  
Youth's Perspective



# The Changing Climate of Agriculture

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- The number of farms in Latin America and the Caribbean has been slowly declining since the 1970s.
- Latin America and the Caribbean records the highest cost for maintaining a healthy diet, with great disparities in cost experienced among countries.
- Agriculture is very sensitive to weather and climate. It also relies heavily on land, water, and other natural resources that climate affects.

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We can reduce the impact of climate change on agriculture in many ways, including the following:

- Encouraging farmers to use climate forecasting tools e.g. **FarmAssist app**
- Reduce food waste by donating nutritious, unused food to food banks and those in need.
- Good agricultural practices such as crop rotation, integrated pest management, holistic farming approaches and boost crop resistance with improved research.

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Incorporate climate-smart farming methods such as  
The **Hydro-Earth Grow Bucket System**



# Climate Smart Technique - The Hydro-Earth Grow Bucket System



## **Innovative Approach to Address Hunger**

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- The promotion of greater public awareness and participation in agriculture, especially by women and youth
- Earmark arable agricultural lands for youth to develop sustainable modern farms
- Provide incentives for youth entering the agricultural sector e.g. grants, agri-micro loans and agri-tech startup training
- Train youth in climate smart agricultural techniques



## Innovative Approach to Address Hunger Cont'd

- Support innovative farming projects such as the **Land We Love Organic Greenhouse** project that is earmarked for Jamaica
- Promote agricultural goods and services offered by the youths



## Benjamín López Velásquez

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Co-Founder of *Flor de Tierra* and  
Representative of the Network of  
Rural Youth of Guatemala



## Flor de Tierra

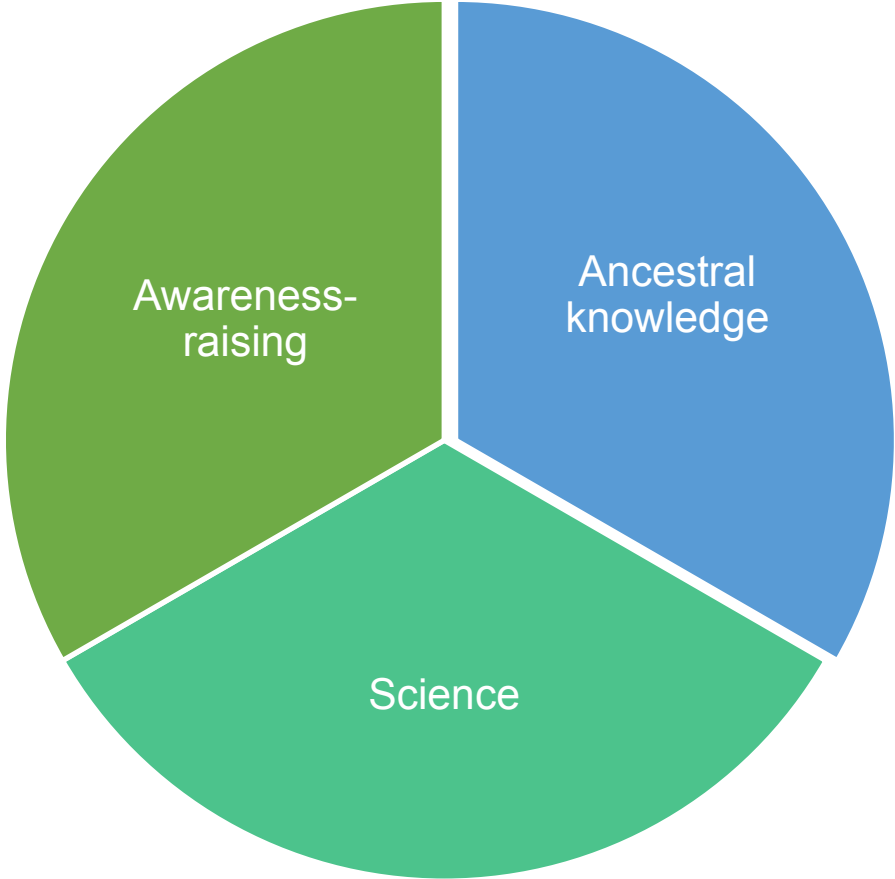
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Ancestral knowledge, science,  
and sustainable production



# Mission

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# What do we do?



MICROORGANISMOS  
DE MONTAÑA



BOKASHI



BOKASHIJARDIN



PROBA  
(PROBIÓTICO  
ANIMAL)

# What have we learned and how can we scale up our efforts?

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## Contact information

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