

Outcomes of the Climate Change Conference (COP25) – WFP in side events

The WFP delegation has actively participated in a range of panels, strategic and technical events during COP25. These events have been excellent opportunities to deliver key messages on climate action. Events included:

High-level segments and senior discussions

- High-level signing event ***“Uniting our efforts to close the capacity gap on high quality weather forecast, early warnings and climate information”***

10 December



In this high-level signature ceremony organised by WMO, **Gernot Laganda**, together with 12 other IFIs and UN agencies, signed up to the **Alliance for Hydromet Development**. The Alliance commits his [signatory members](#) to collectively ramp up actions that strengthen the capacity of developing countries to deliver high-quality weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate services. Gernot stressed the importance of moving from simply reacting to crises to anticipating them and managing risks more efficiently, mostly in environments in which communities are confronted with a rising number of climate shocks.

- High-level ***“Linking the Technological Innovation and Climate Change Actions for a World Free of Hunger, Malnutrition and Poverty”***

FAO, IFAD, WFP

12 December



This event showcased biodiversity-friendly examples of the adaptation, resilience and risk-reduction responses that can be undertaken to address climate change for a world free of hunger, malnutrition and poverty. FAO Director General delivered a key note speech on behalf of the three Rome-based Agencies.

- ***“Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership (REAP): Growing Together”***

10 December



The UK Met Office and DFID hosted this event with the aim of receiving updates from the new Head of REAP Secretariat on progress since REAP establishment in UNCAS. **Gernot Laganda** participated in the senior panel discussion focusing on the challenges for early warning systems, as well as potential of this partnership.

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WFP co-lead events

- **“Science and innovation in support of climate action for the poor and the vulnerable”**
WMO, GFCS, AF, CCAFS, FAO, GCF, GEF, WB, GFDRR, WFP

December 4



Bringing together both implementing and funding organizations, this side event discussed how science and innovation can go hand in hand to achieve greater resilience, improve adaptation and development outcomes and, ultimately, reduce poverty through risk-informed actions at country level. **Gernot Laganda** highlighted WFP's work in reaching the last-mile, also showcasing WFP's Consolidated

Livelihood Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR) methodology to provide relevant actors with downscaled climate information based on historical data.

- **“Climate change and human mobility: responding to displacement and migration challenges”**
IOM, UNHCR, ILO, OHCHR, UNDP, UNU, WFP, WMO

12 December



With increasing recognition of the importance of strengthening responses to displacement and human mobility related to the adverse effects of climate change, this side event discussed the different effective, coordinated actions taken by UN actors and their partners. **Carlo Scaramella** explained how the lack of appropriate governance of climate risks poses a threat to food security and may affect social cohesion and political stability. He highlighted WFP's active role to a Zero Hunger world that is resilient to the impact of climate-related disasters.

- **“Finance for adaptation and its effective delivery in rural areas”**
WFP, IFAD

12 December



This side event debated the future of climate finance in agriculture and to highlight the potential of innovative risk financing mechanisms in building climate resilience, calling for a shift from responding to disasters to managing risks and early action. **Laura Melo** highlighted the important role of preparedness and forecast to ensure that

financing mechanisms are available immediately after climate-related disasters hit. Risk-financing solutions such as forecast-based financing (FbF), coupled with microinsurance, are being developed and adapted to the context of Guatemala to ensure timely and effective humanitarian responses and long-term resilience. **Albano Manjate**, from the Ministry of Economy and Finance of **Mozambique**, presented on the recently approved GCF project developed by the government in partnership with WFP. **Barbara Schnell**, **KfW**, stressed the importance of investing in transferring the know-how to partners for more effective disaster responses and the need for integral solutions to build resilience and respond to disasters. She

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highlighted the R4 experience implemented by WFP in East Africa as an example. **Margarita Astralaga**, **IFAD**, highlighted the need for integral solutions, but she also stressed the dimension of the challenge that given the large number of smallholder farmers worldwide who the impact of climate change.

Other sessions and events:

- **Launch of the WMO “2019 State of Climate Services, Agriculture and Food Security” report**
3 December



This WFP co-authored report was launched during the 1st week of COP at the occasion of the Earth Information Day. Weather and climate services are vital for sustainable development and climate change adaptation, and yet the capacity to deliver and access these services is patchy and inadequate, according to the new report. **Jennifer Nyberg** highlighted the importance of investing on climate services in support of the most vulnerable, as people are at the core of WFP's interventions.

- **IRI ACToday event**
4 December



This side event reviewed the role of climate services in supporting the Paris Agreement. Without the support of climate services, key economic sectors, such as agriculture, will not be able to adapt and achieve the goals of Paris and SDGs. **Gernot Laganda** shared insights on the challenges and lessons learnt from WFP while helping vulnerable communities accessing climate and weather information.

- **The 3rd InsuResilience Global Partnership Forum**
9 December



The Forum focused on discussions around Climate and Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (CDRFI), with a spotlight on their application to the resilience needs and specific vulnerabilities in the Caribbean, Latin, and Central America (LAC) region. **Fabio Bedini** took part in a dialogue between sovereign risk pools, in order to reflect on the successes and challenges faced by each and explore

lessons and best practices. Fabio also highlighted WFP's experience with ARC Replica in Africa. **Kathryn Milliken** spoke about opportunities of linking social protection and risk finance measures (including insurance, Forecast-based financing etc), reflecting also on challenges and lessons learnt in LAC.



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- **“Building anticipatory capacities and actions for disaster mitigation and climate change adaptation at the community and government level - NDC Partnership event”**

9 December



The purpose of this event, organised by the French Agency for Development, was to exchange lessons learned among different stakeholders involved in Forecast-based Actions (FbA) processes; share a range of experiences on opportunities and challenges from the Caribbean region; discuss new perspectives for complementary mechanisms to build capacities of vulnerable individuals in a context of climate change exacerbating disaster risks and climate shocks. **Kathryn Milliken** shared insights on the opportunities for shock-responsive social protection to address extreme events in the Caribbean, highlighting a recently published WFP-OPM study. She also spoke of some of the challenges for forecast-based financing in the Caribbean.

- **“Resilience roundtable – Marrakesh Partnership”**

11 December



The purpose of the roundtable, organised by different UN and non-UN agencies, was to discuss how to accelerate action and investment into transformative change so that those most affected by climate change, especially people living in LDCs and SIDS, are able to thrive and live prosperous lives in the face of climate change. It considered how to translate global commitments to national action, including mainstreaming resilience into national development plans. **Kathryn Milliken** attended on behalf of WFP. A range of opinions from public and private sector were provided on the way forward on the challenges and solutions to achieve transformative change and which will be included in a report under the Marrakesh Partnership.

- **“Towards early action: linking early warning systems with risk finance and insurance”**

10 December



This InsuResilience side event explored how early warning systems can be used to shift climate risk financing mechanisms to an anticipatory stage and help governments mitigate impacts before disasters occur. **Gernot Laganda** explained the climate risk transfer mechanisms used by WFP to support vulnerable people in absorbing risks from an increased number of extreme weather events. Gernot also moderated a breakout session on risk finance and insurance, discussing how risk finance solutions can make use of early warning systems and which requirements are needed for successful implementation.



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- **“Sustainable Food Production and Climate Change”**

11 December



This event, organised by Kitchen Connection, hosted WFP, IFAD, FAO and other entities to speak about climate change impacts on food security and nutrition in Guatemala, Chad and Sri Lanka. The panel was followed by a chef-showcase with ingredients inspired by the countries analysed, sharing climate-conscious creations. **Laura Melo** highlighted the challenges Guatemala is facing when it comes to extreme weather events affecting food security and nutrition in the country, also with a focus on food quality in the most remote areas.

- **Colombia stand event**

11 December



In this event, organized by the Colombia government delegation, successful experiences of community-based adaptation for rural development in Colombia were presented. **Chiara Trozzo** highlighted how the WFP Colombia-Ecuador regional project under the Adaptation Fund (AF) is promoting a bottom-up, context-based adaptation planning process, as well as community ownership and empowerment, thus ensuring effective and sustainable adaptation to climate change and contributing to rural development.