



Inclusive Digital Transformation of Agriculture

A Collective Action within Key Focus Area (KFA) 1: *Empowering Farmers at the Center of Innovation*

Farmers in general, and small farmers in particular, are not harnessing the benefits of the ongoing and accelerating digital transformation. Digital Agriculture (DA) is expected to increase agricultural production, help adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, bring about more efficient use of natural resources, reduce risk and improve resilience in farming, and make agri-food value chains much more efficient.

The lack of inclusion of farmers in the design and governance of DA processes discourages small farmers from fully embracing DA. Consequently, the benefits that DA could bring in terms of farmers' income and resilience, value chain efficiency and transparency, and environmental and societal goods, are not being realized.

To address these challenges, Partners in GFAR have started an action on Inclusive Digital Transformation of Agriculture.



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Partners in GFAR recognize that the key driver towards the full realization of the benefits of the digital transformation of agriculture is the inclusion of farmers in the design and governance of digital solutions, and in the negotiation of related data practices and business models.

We need to strengthen the recognition of farmers as the central actors and innovators themselves, generators of valuable agricultural knowledge and holders of intellectual property rights, not just recipients of others' solutions, knowledge, and data.

The first phase was launched in August 2021 in Latin America and the Caribbean, led by the Forum of the Americas for Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO) and in partnership with the Confederation of Family Producers Organizations of the Expanded Mercosur (COPROFAM), the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) initiative, and the AgGateway consortium of digital agriculture solution providers. A scaling out and regional replication phase is foreseen towards the end of 2021.



What we're doing together

The action will build on stock-taking exercises already conducted on the topic and will take an iterative approach: each phase will include:

- a) surveys for a farmer-centric needs/concerns assessment
- b) multi-stakeholder consultations for co-designing farmer-fair business models and best practices for digital transformation
- c) capacity development tools and events
- d) input for launching pilot implementations
- e) advocacy for policies.

The identified needs and the devised models and best practices will be the basis for capacity development, pilots and advocacy. All findings and material produced or used in the Action as well as other relevant publicly available resources will be adapted and organized in an Online Toolkit for Inclusive Digital Agriculture.

Farmer-fair, farmer-centric

Multi-stakeholder, co-innovation

Co-design

Negotiation capacities

The final objectives are that:

- a) farmers contribute on equal terms with other actors to the design, governance, sharing and use of DA data, technologies and processes, as well as promotion and support of pertinent policies and practices; and
- b) farmers perceive the DA value chain (technology, money, data, knowledge) as farmer-fair and embrace DA technologies that help them increase productivity and income, reduce risk, use natural resources sustainably and mitigate/adapt to climate change.

You are invited to join this Collective Action on
Inclusive Digital Transformation of Agriculture.

The first stream started in Latin America and the Caribbean.
Partners in other regions are planning activities in this Action.
Contact us if you want to join them.

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