SfL Vision

An Agricultural Renaissance led by innovative and entrepreneurial farmers, ranchers, and foresters1 constructing sustainable, profitable, and resilient systems that lay the foundation for a world of abundance on many scales; capable of producing nutritious food, feed, fiber, clean energy, healthy ecosystems, quality livelihoods and strong rural economies.

This vision requires participation and leadership from farmers, ranchers, foresters, and all their partners in agriculture to establish the social and environmental foundation for the successful achievement of the SDGs. For without successful agriculture humankind cannot thrive. Renaissance Report - Solutions from the Land


Proposed Outcomes for 2023-2026 POW

**Overarching outcome:** Widespread adoption and incorporation of SfL guiding principles, including innovation and technology and farmer consultation in UN agency documents and subsequent member states policies.

A. UNFCCC formally incorporates agriculture as a solution to Climate Change in policy documents.
B. FAO Food Systems Pathways are agriculture innovation and technology-neutral and outcomes-focused.
C. US government strategically uses its negotiating power in global agricultural forum platforms.
D. Aligned farmer groups and organizations (outside the US) collaborate to guide UN agencies and member states.

**How we will accomplish these outcomes**

1. Cadre of farmer envoys effectively intervenes across the spectrum of SfL global engagement platforms.
2. Relationships of trust and knowledge sharing built with aligned farmer organizations and collaborative efforts undertaken to guide UN agencies and member states.

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1 The phrase, “farmers, ranchers and foresters” encompass farmers, ranchers, foresters, orchardists, graziers, aquaculturalists, and all those who are stewards of working landscapes. Working landscapes are agricultural croplands, grasslands, orchards and forests, vineyards, fisheries, and other lands and waters that are managed for livelihoods and the production of food, fiber, energy, and ecosystem services. The transformations that a farmer-led Renaissance brings require broad collaboration with industries, academia, civil society, and policymakers to bring the best science and engineering innovations to system-level solutions.
3. Alliance of US agricultural organizations collaborate with USDA to carry shared messages. Potential targeted candidates include:
   - Europe- UK and Ireland
   - Africa- Kenya and Uganda
   - Latin America- Costa Rico
   - South America- Argentina and Brazil
   - Southeast Asia- India
   - Southern Pacific- Australia and New Zealand

4. Feedback loops established to share global developments of US agriculture.

5. SfL takes a leading voice in the farmer leadership conversation.

**SfL 2023-2026 Priority areas:**

- Water
- Biodiversity
- Food and nutrition security

**Crosscutting Pathways:**

- Systems of food & agriculture production that concurrently meet SDGs
- Circular systems
- Innovation and technology
- Finance flows
- Data collection and analysis tools
- Gender and youth

**Platforms:**

**Existing**

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - SB 58-60
  - COP 28-30
  - KJWA handoff to Sharm-el Sheikh work program
  - AIM4Climate
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- FAO Committee on Food Security (CFS 51-53)
- Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture
- United Nations Environmental Program

**New**

- UN Water Conference (March 22-24)
- World Water Week 2023, Stockholm (August 20-24)
- World Food Programme- Saving lives/Changing lives (new capacity building program area)
- Convention on Biodiversity

**Tactics:**

- Submissions
- Online consultations
- Concept notes/white papers (e.g. global paper on farmer experimentation with circular systems)
- Events
- Interventions (e.g. Energy & Environment Ministers meeting in Berlin, July 2022)
- Bilateral /multi-lateral efforts

Methods:

- Continue to prepare, support and utilize farmer envoys (Cohort #1). Facilitate their proactive and paired participation in UN forums as ambassadors defending and championing science-based, proven and pragmatic system approaches that co-produce agriculture and healthy ecosystem outcomes and counter the anti-technology agricultural reform agenda being advanced by other parties;
- Recruit additional farmer envoys to fill gaps (Cohort #2?) to serve with existing farmer ambassadors as experts in engaging UN platforms, officials and observers on “circular/closed system” approach to managing agricultural lands, which enables the co-production of agricultural and ecosystem outcomes, including technologically based practices and precision techniques used widely by commercial agriculture in the developed world.
- Educate and equip new cohorts on the circular systems approach to scaling up agricultural solutions to global challenges- (via three virtual work sessions over the course of three months)
  o Session one: An introduction to circular food and agriculture systems
  o Session two: sharing of how circular systems might evolve in their operations over the next 5-10 years
  o Session three: An introduction to UN platforms and actors/stakeholders.
- Collaborate with our growing global network of farmers and farm organizations in other parts of the world in securing “member-state” support of a “multiple systems” approach to managing agricultural lands.
- Assemble reports, studies, data and other supporting material documenting the role and contributions of circular systems and practices in meeting SDGs.
- Through a farmer speakers bureau, op-eds, position statements and social media, widely socialize the logic and benefits of adopting a circular approach to managing agricultural landscapes.

Farmer Envoy Roles:

1. Holder/keeper of the vision.
2. Voice of farmers.
3. Catalyst. Multi-benefit agricultural solutions to SDGs.
4. Advocate. Agricultural innovation & technologies
5. Positive disrupter of the status quo and policy inertia
6. Issue framer from farmer perspective on critical, emerging and enduring issues:
   a. climate change
   b. circular on-farm, local, and global systems
   c. nature positive agro-ecosystems
   d. concurrent delivery of ecosystem services & food and nutrition security
7. Plant & nurture relationships. Within and across countries, organizations, conventions, platforms, agencies, initiatives, bilateral

About SfL: Solutions from the Land is a nonprofit corporation with extensive experience facilitating land-based solutions to global challenges. SfL’s ability to effectively engage the UNFCCC and FAO has already been demonstrated, as many of its recommendations have been incorporated into the process being used to construct the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture: the first ever global effort
to mainstream agriculture into the UNFCCC processes and drive transformation in agricultural and food systems, addressing the synergies and trade-offs between adaptation, mitigation and productivity. SfL’s network of farmer leaders and cooperating government, academic, business and conservation partner leaders are successfully demonstrating how to sustain a thriving agricultural sector that also reduces the effects of climate change and improves quality of life.

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