YOUTH MANIFESTO

FOOD PEOPLE & PLANET

These words are for you. For you, and anyone who calls planet Earth home. For you, policymaker. You, farmer. You, educator. You, businessperson, journalist, activist, or researcher. They are for you, citizen.

"I appeal to all people, everywhere, to raise their voice.
Speak out on behalf of this planet, our only home.
Let us care for Mother Earth so she can continue to care for us,
as she has done for millennia." [1]

The planet-people-food relationship is broken.

People go to bed hungry, but still we waste food. People are starving, but obesity levels are rising. Meanwhile, unsustainable farming pushes the environment to the limit.

We all must take responsibility for the wellbeing of our common home and shared future.

We come today from all over the world, willing to propose concrete recommendations for the global challenges facing planet, people and food.

We are the future policymakers, farmers and educators. We are the future journalists, activists, businesspeople and researchers.

When world leaders talk about the consequences of hunger, food waste, poor nutrition, and unsustainable agriculture for future generations, they are talking about us. They are deciding for us. As future leaders, we want to be part of that conversation and we want to be part of the solution.

This Youth Manifesto is our contribution to the Milan Charter, cultural legacy of EXPO 2015, inspired by civil society's Milan Protocol. It proposes a new approach to food sustainability for a healthier planet and healthier people.

The Manifesto represents our commitment to work for a more sustainable tomorrow beyond EXPO 2015. It's not too late to create the world we imagine.

We call on policymakers, farmers, educators, businesspeople, journalists, activists and researchers of every nation to raise their voices with us. We will need each one of you to join forces and act to solve this crisis together.

Today we are the young generation, tomorrow, when we become…

Policymakers, *we will:*

Move away from a purely economic cost-benefit analysis by considering carefully the environmental, social, health and cultural impacts of policies when designing and adopting legislation.

Farmers, *we will:*

Bring young people back to farming, this profession that feeds us all. Work with governments for better access to land and urban spaces, to financing, and to appropriate methods to empower a new generation of farmers.

Educators, *we will:*

Commit to teaching all children about the relationship that connects food, people, health and the planet by making food, nutrition and agriculture education mandatory in school curricula around the world.

Food industry businesspeople, *we will:*

Lead by example by creating sustainable supply chains, supporting farmers and making available healthy products that inspire consumers to adopt sustainable living.

Journalists, *we will:*

Bring recognition to the importance of fact-based media coverage of hunger, food, obesity, nutrition, and agriculture with the "Foodlitzer", an international award for excellence in independent reporting on sustainability issues.

Activists, *we will:*

Advocate that food and agriculture corporations provide a seat on their boards to include our perspectives. This will create new spaces for activist-business cooperation, for example in sustainable agriculture, food waste reduction and healthier product composition.

Researchers, *we will:*

Deliver unbiased open data in a way that connects multiple disciplines to make complicated concepts about food, agriculture and nutrition understandable, accessible, and exploitable.

Help us make this happen.

[1] *Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General*

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