FACTS ABOUT BRAZILIAN AGRICULTURE

Agricultural activities are directly impacted by climate change, with potential impacts on rural producers. The proper development of crops and pastures depends on specific climatic conditions so that they reach their greatest economic potential, combined with social development and environmental sustainability. Based on a sustainable development model, the Brazilian agricultural sector has invested heavily in resilient agriculture and is committed to preserving its greatest natural assets, which are its native vegetation and biodiversity. A benchmark in promoting adaptation and mitigation in agriculture in the tropics, it has also not given up its responsibility to preserve its forests, complying with some of the strictest forestry legislation in the world. This scenario has allowed us to have a high degree of productive resilience, without giving up the responsibility of guaranteeing the world's food and energy security.

Producing more to guarantee food security, producing better to guarantee the quality of our products and achieving the goals of producing with resilience to climate change make us important players in achieving the desired climate security. These changes have a direct impact on productivity, optimizing the production period, reducing the spread of pests and diseases and promoting soil conservation.

In this sense, Brazilian farmers have been a benchmark in sustainable practices for many years, investing in guidelines for dealing with climate change, preserving, mitigating and adapting.

PRESERVE:

Currently more than 66% of Brazil's territory is made of native vegetation, 33% of which is privately owned. It should be noted that Brazilian farmers own more areas of native vegetation than Conservation Units and Indigenous Lands combined. This environmental asset makes up the native vegetation preserved by law, the Forest Code, a demanding and modern piece of legislation that requires rural properties to maintain an area of vegetation of between 20% and 80%, depending on the biome in which the property is located.

The Brazilian Forest Act also created the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR) and the Environmental Regularization Program (PRA), two important initiatives for maintaining, recovering and measuring native vegetation.

CAR is an electronic public register of rural properties and forms a database for controlling, monitoring, environmental planning and combating deforestation.

The Environmental Regularization Program (PRA) includes a set of actions to be carried out by rural landowners with the aim of promoting the eventual environmental regularization of their properties.

MITIGATE:

A jabuticaba[1] for mitigating carbon emissions from Brazilian agriculture is the ABC Plan (Low Carbon Agriculture), a public policy made up of a set of actions aimed at promoting the increased adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies with a high potential for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and combating global warming.

In the first phase of the ABC Plan, between 2010 and 2018, the emission of 193.67 million tons of CO_2 equivalent was mitigated, in an area of 54 million hectares in Direct Planting, Crop-Livestock-Forest Integration, Recovery of Degraded Pastures, Biological Nitrogen Fixation, Treatment of Animal Waste, Planting of Commercial Forests.

In its second phase, the Plan has been renamed the ABC+ Plan, and it is proposed to mitigate the emission of 1.1 billion tons of CO_2 equivalent, adding irrigation and finishing animals for slaughter to the technologies encouraged in the first period.

It should also be remembered that the Brazilian agricultural sector plays a central role in Brazil's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

[1] Jabuticaba is a fruit that only exists in Brazil and, in the Portuguese language, is used as a metaphor for things that only exist in Brazil.

ADAPT:

Adaptation has always been the motto of Brazilian agricultural production, since the main current crops had to be tropicalized and adapted to Brazil's different biomes.

As part of these adaptations, cutting-edge technology has been applied to production systems, so between 1976 and 2023 Brazil saw a 106% increase in production areas, with a significant **566% increase in grain production**.

As for tropicalization, it's also important to mention that this system has made it possible to grow two or even three crops in one year in the same area. However, this same tropicalization is susceptible to pests that are different from those known in temperate climate agriculture, which implies the use of molecules that are different from those used in Europe and the United States as pesticides. These molecules are safe and undergo a rigorous testing process that lasts many years. Maximum Residue Limits are complied with in accordance with the recommendations of the FAO's Codex Alimentarius.

In the same context of adapting to the reality of the 21st century, 77% of rural properties in Brazil are family-owned. Of all the farms, around 20% are run by women.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW FACTS ABOUT BRAZIL'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION LIKE THIS, PLEASE CONTACT CNA THROUGH OUR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS.