

Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate more than doubles Investments to \$17B, Partners to 600+, and Innovation Sprints to 78 at COP28

Friday, 8 December 2023, Dubai, UAE: The <u>Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate</u> (AIM for Climate), a global initiative spearheaded by the United Arab Emirates and the United States, today announced more than doubling of investments, partners, and Innovation Sprints in transformative climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation, at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28).

With the support of **over 600** government and non-government partners, AIM for Climate announced an **increased investment of more than \$17 billion, up from \$8 billion at COP27**, representing a more than doubling of investments. The increased investment comprises **over \$12 billion from Government Partners**, with contributions from Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, the European Commission, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and Vietnam and **over \$5 billion investment from Innovation Sprints**.

AIM for Climate introduced **27 Innovation Sprints**, initiatives led and self-funded by partners to achieve expedited results in agricultural and food systems innovation. There are now **78 Innovation Sprints** in total, more than double what was announced at COP27, aligned with one or more of AIM for Climate's Innovation Sprint focal areas: Smallholder Farmers in Low- and Middle-Income Countries; Emerging Technologies; Agroecological Research; and Methane Reduction. To view all AIM for Climate Innovation Sprints, including those announced at COP28, please visit this link.

The investments in the AIM for Climate initiative are enabled and supported by a coalition that has more than doubled in partners to **over 600**. This diverse group includes governments, businesses, academia, non-profits, think tanks, and more.

The new investments, partners, and Innovation Sprint announcements were made by AIM for Climate co-leads **U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack** and **UAE Minister of Climate Change & Environment, Her Excellency Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri** at the UAE Pavilion, COP28. These announcements underpin AIM for Climate's progress in significantly increasing investment in and other support for climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation over the period of 2021 to 2025.

Dignitaries at the event emphasized the urgent need for innovative approaches in agriculture and food systems to confront the climate crisis. Additionally, they highlighted the importance of investing in climate-smart agriculture and food systems, demonstrating how AIM for Climate partners and Innovation Sprints are driving innovation through new investments.

Through these collaborative efforts, AIM for Climate demonstrates a commitment to developing sustainable and resilient agricultural practices to address climate change and global hunger.



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The remarks at the event reflected the ongoing discussions at COP28, revolving around the intersection of climate change, food systems, and agricultural innovation.

Her Excellency Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri said: "We are witnessing tremendous progress in transforming the global food and agricultural systems at COP28, which has placed the theme at the heart of the Presidency agenda. The world has rallied together for the implementation of the 'COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action' with 134 nations endorsing it, in addition to support gained from non-state partners. The significant traction gained by AIM for Climate is another step in promoting climate-smart agriculture, driven by innovation and advanced technology, which is critical to strengthening productivity and building sectoral resilience."

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said: "As we convene at COP28, I am pleased to announce our new investments and partnerships under the AIM for Climate initiative. Together, with the UAE and our global partners, we are dedicated to meeting our climate goals, enhancing food security, and building a sustainable future for our planet. This partnership embodies our shared commitment to accelerating investments in transformative food systems and climate-smart agricultural innovations and we look forward to working with everyone on the road to COP30. Our joint efforts are not just about climate-smart agricultural advancements but about nurturing ambition, catalyzing action, and fostering hope towards a more sustainable, resilient, and prosperous world for all."

AIM for Climate was launched by the <u>President of the United States</u> at the **26th** United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).

AIM for Climate recognizes the wide range of participants necessary to achieve its goal and seeks to draw on diverse knowledge, experiences, and cultures.

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Notes to Editors

The Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate / AIM4C) is a joint initiative by the United States and the United Arab Emirates. AIM for Climate seeks to address climate change and global hunger by uniting participants to significantly increase investment in, and other support for, climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation over five years (2021 – 2025).

The UAE, AIM for Climate co-lead and the COP28 Presidency, has identified AIM for Climate as a flagship initiative for their COP28 Presidency and a leading platform to advance food and agriculture's contributions at COP28.



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Government partners provide the crucial foundation of AIM for Climate, through a wave of new public investment in climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation. But other sectors, including business, philanthropy, and other non-government partners are invited to build upon that foundation with "innovation sprints" – investments in specific, impactful, expedited efforts – or by providing critical knowledge for identifying investment gaps, challenges and opportunities.

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