

Official input in the call for inputs to the Climate High-Level Champions – Launch of 2025 Work Programme, reflections on progress and call for inputs

Reference number: C&E/MTP/O/HLC/2025WP/Launch

Submitted by:

Mateusz Ciasnocha & the European Carbon Farmers

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Programme, reflections on progress and call for inputs
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This document is an official input submitted by Mateusz Ciasnocha and the European Carbon Farmers in the call for inputs to the Climate High-Level Champions announced on the 17th of July 2025 with reference number: C&E/MTP/O/HLC/2025WP/Launch.

Structure of the Document

The four sections of this document are:

- 1. Introduction,
- 2. Thank you note to the Climate High-Level Champions with personal testimony,
- 3. Official input to the questions asked,
- 4. Conclusions.

Introduction

My name is <u>Mateusz Ciasnocha</u> and I am a <u>farmer from northern Poland</u> on the mission of building a farmer-centric bridge between climate and agricultural policies. In order to accelerate this mission the <u>European Carbon Farmers</u> were founded in 2020 in order to carry out work beyond the Ciasnocha Family Farms, namely in the areas of 1) Farmer, farm advisors and policy-markers trainings and 2) Policy making participation efforts, especially in the areas of "regenerative agriculture" and "carbon farming".

In my personal capacity as a farmer and agricultural expert, as well as institutionally as the European Carbon Farmers we live the mission by implementing the Horizon-Europe-funded MIDAS Project – Grant Agreement Number 101082070 – serving in the EU Soil Mission Advisory Board, as well as providing strategic support to key coalitions, such as the CA4SH: Coalition of Action on Soil Health emerging from the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UN FSS), where I served as the UN FSS Champion.

Thank you note to the High Level Champions with personal testimony

Much if not all of our work up to date, some of which we have described above, would not be possible if not for the opportunity provided by the High Level Champions (HLCs) for COP26 and COP26, Mrs. Nigel Topping and Mr. Gonzalo Muñoz, were I served as the Regenerative Agriculture Youth Fellow in the HLCs Team.

It was during this formative time that my <u>"Visit a farmer" call</u> emerged, which has been and remains the guiding principle of our work since. Right after finishing my service in the HLCs Team — combined with service

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in the UN FSS process, all of it complimentary with the HLCs work – I have combined all of those insights in the proposal and appeal for the establishment of the <u>Working Group on Climate Neutral and Nature Positive Agriculture</u> [the document in Polish is available <u>here</u>] submitted to – among others – the President and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland in December 2021.

Further work, such as supporting the HLCs Call to Action on Food Systems, strategic participation in COP28, including as the Lead Farmer Co-Host of the Food Systems Pavilion and the YSI @ COP28 webinar series, SB60, including the YSI live from SB60 webinar, as well as Meeting with the President of the Republic of Poland before the COP28, SB62 where our paths crossed once again (for those encounters we are deeply grateful), as well as contribution of the COP30 especially with the 2nd Edition "YSI COP for the UN Rio Conventions" all of which are natural consequences of the commitment to the mission: <a href="meeting-building-

Last, but not least, this work is rooted in strategic support, inspiration and personal relations with three HLCs: Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow from Poland, Mr. Gonzalo Muñoz from Chile and Mr. Nigel Topping from the United Kingdom. I am grateful for the level of quality and leadership they all brought to the HLCs role and I am so grateful to their successors, currently Mr. Dan loschpe & Ms. Nigar Arpadarai, for bringing to this role. Thank you so, so, so much for your leadership, especially in the area of the food systems and specifically farmer engagement.

Official input to the questions asked

Keeping in mind the short perspective from which we are speaking presented in the document above, we are sharing our key suggestions in this call for inputs responding to the questions asked:

What should success look like for the GCAA in the next five years, and how can it be measured effectively?

We see the success of the GCAA in the next five years, as a global movement of actors and coalitions taking action, jointly, to stop and reverse ecosystem's deterioration including climate change, but definitely not limited to climate change only, instead taking account of all the Planetary Boundaries. We see – at the very least – Three Rio Conventions working jointly to deliver on this ambition. Strong cooperation between food system transformation, centred on people stewarding and increasing soil health, both through the Rome-Based Agencies, as well as Parties and Non-State Actors is critical for the GCAA's success. We cannot see the success of the next GCAA without active engagement of the Farmers and Faith Groups. Finally, but definitely not least, we see the Parties stopping all kind of wars and exploitation both within the internationally recognized boundaries of those Parties, as well as outside of those.

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In order to empower and measure this success, we recommend to follow the UN FSS model of launching Coalitions of Action and encouraging both government-led, as well as non-government-led Dialogues following the same, tried and tested, methodology used in the UN FSS.

How can the GCAA facilitate direct and impactful engagement between Parties and NPS to support implementation efforts at both national and sectoral levels, in order to advance the full delivery of the GST, NDCs, and NAPs?

We see as the best way for the GCAA to facilitate direct and impactful engagement between Parties and NPS to support implementation efforts at both national and sectoral levels, in order to advance the full delivery of the GST, NDCs, and NAPs is to follow the UN FSS model of building a Global Secretariat, HLCs Team is this Secretariat already, with capabilities to engage with the Parties and non-Parties in a structured way. In case of the UN FSS the model was establishing the Action Tracks, launching Coalitions of Action within those Action Tracts and encouraging both government-led, as well as non-government-led Dialogues.

How can the CGAA promote an inclusive and equitable engagement, in particular from underrepresented groups and regions?

Inclusive and equitable engagement is a must for the GCAA. In addition to developing the UN FSS-like structure for the GCAA, we suggest mirroring HLCs roles and the HLCs Team at nation-based level placing a particular focus on the underrepresented groups and regions. We suggest HLCs Team should encourage and show resource mobilisation opportunities for the HLCs in cooperation with the Parties to establish the "Country HLCs" and the "Youth Country HLCs" roles with the (Youth) Country HLCs Teams. This, we believe is the most effective way to enhance and scale HLCs work globally, while ensuring inclusivity and equitability.

What improvements can be made to ensure better transparency, reporting and follow up of the GCAA, including in existing tools such as the Global Climate Action Portal (a.k.a NAZCA) and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action?

We welcome the impact generated by the NAZCA and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action up to date. In order to enhance the transparency, reporting and follow up of the GCAA, we suggest running Dialogues at scale – both National and Independent – like conducted under the UN FSS. This way thanks to engaging key formal decision makers, as well as hundreds of thousands of bottom-up participants from across the world and all paths of life, the transparency, reporting and follow up of the GCAA will reach new hights.

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Conclusions

This document presented the official input of Mateusz Ciasnocha and the European Carbon Farmers in the call for inputs to the Climate High-Level Champions – Mr. Dan Ioschpe and Ms. Nigar Arpadarai – announced on the 17th of July 2025 with reference number: C&E/MTP/O/HLC/2025WP/Launch.

We are deeply grateful for the HLCs work and fully supportive off it deeply hoping that some, ideally all, of the suggestions presented in this document will contribute to the success of the GCAA by unleashing, as well as leveraging the transformative opportunity the GCAA presents.

Thank you note

We would like to thank you for devoting your time and attention to reading and analysing our official input in this call for inputs.

We remain fully committed to supporting and working with HLCS, as well as all other interested stakeholders in moving our input from paper towards transformational implementation.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide this official input and we are looking forward to the next steps in this process.

Yours sincerely,

Mateusz Ciasnocha Farmer & CEO Ciasnocha Family Farms & the European Carbon Farmers



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