



Global Farmer Network

Live Webinar Series 2024

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

GFN® member speakers:

- Kristjan Hebert, Canada
- Paul Temple, UK

February 15, 2024
14:00 GMT

Register at:
<http://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar03>

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EVENT ALERT!

2-15-24 @ 14:00 GMT - GFN Offering Third Knowledge Transfer Session

The Global Farmer Network is inviting you to join us for our third webinar: *Market Opportunities from a Farmer's Perspective*. Our speakers, GFN members Kristjan Hebert (Canada) and Paul Temple (UK) will share insights on how challenges in market access can be transformed into opportunities and what practical strategies they applied to create avenues for growth in their operations.

[Register today!](#) A confirmation and calendar option will be sent to your email. We look forward to seeing you on February 15, 14:00 GMT.

The GFN prioritizes farmer-to-farmer peer knowledge transfer as a core component of its activities. This approach recognizes the expertise and experience farmers possess and aims to facilitate direct exchanges of insights, techniques, and best practices among them. By fostering these connections, collaboration takes place to enhance agricultural productivity, sustainability, and livelihoods globally.

[Insights, Experience Shared by GFN Members](#)



GFN Members Participate in Oxford Farming Conference

Rory Christy, Scotland took the stage at the Oxford Farming Conference, speaking on "Getting People into Agriculture - Could Diversity Fix Farming Recruitment?" Addressing climate change, the biggest challenge facing today's society, was **Mary Boote, USA**.

GFN Members Active in January

- **Jana Gäbert**, Germany interviewed about the rising costs in her farm and impact on dairy communities.
- **Jana Gäbert** and **Marcus Holtkötter**, Germany elevated their farmers' voices during farmer protesting.
- **AD Alvarez**, Philippines launches a podcast to talk about agriculture in his country and is invited to attend The Filipino SDG Action Hour virtual meeting, to deliver a talk on the business perspective on biotechnology crops.
- **Yara de Geus**, Brazil hosted a delegation of the Iowa Soybean Association.
- **Malwinder Mahli**, India attended Mega International Conference and Exhibition for Farmer Welfare.
- **Gilbert Bor**, Kenya participated in a panel discussion on agricultural biotechnology.
- **Jenny Holterman**, USA-California gave a tour of her farm to former Dodger's Steve Garvey, who is running for the Senate.
- **Judith de Vor**, Netherlands and **Marcus Holtkötter**, Germany, will meet at Grune Woche. de Vor attending with Dutch TeamAgroNL.
- **Engr. Roger Navarro**, Philippines was designated as undersecretary for operations of the Department of Agriculture.
- **Ganesh Nanote**, India is the recipient of the award "Idol Farmer of the Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Agricultural University."

To connect with, and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 265+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



Technology is the path to food security in Rwanda

The *Rwanda Supports Technology as a Tool for Food Security* op-ed by **Pacifique Nshimiyimana**, is picked up by [Bonus Eventus Favorable Outcomes](#) newsletter - Jan. 8, 2024, in *Stories Worth Sharing*. Bonus Eventus is a global network of experts, including individuals, companies and organizations, seeking to improve the dialogue around food and agricultural issues. [Learn more](#) about Pacifique and his farm.



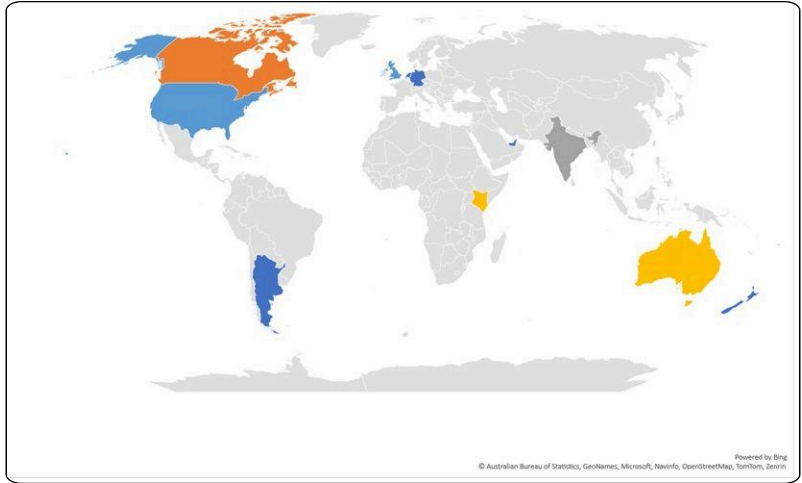
Koku meets with John Deere

Patience Koku, Nigeria met with Niger State government leaders and John Deere staff. She explained that farmers in Africa need "smaller tractors, not tractors with less features." Collaboration and the exchanges of knowledge can lead to innovative solutions to common challenges and improve farming practices.

Nominate a Farmer

2024 Global Farmer Network Roundtable & Communication Training program

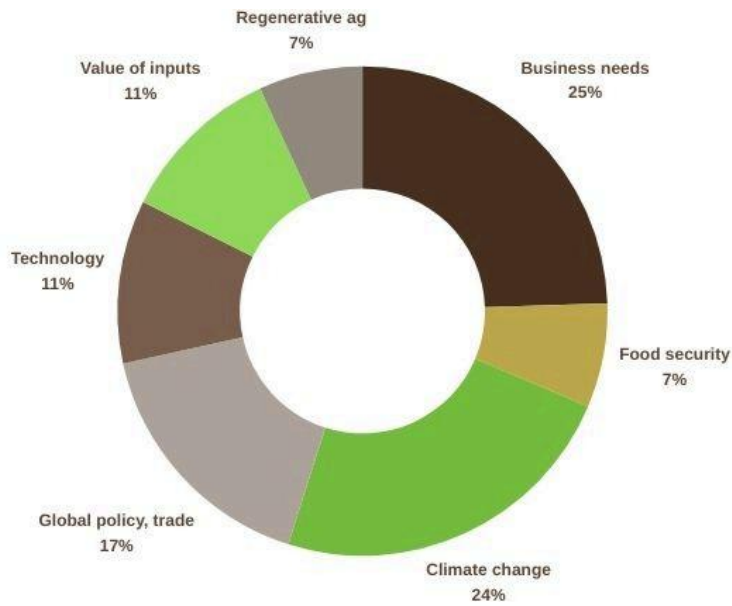
Farmers address top-of-mind issues



GFN Members Making Their Voices Heard

During January, 50+ GFN farmers from the countries highlighted in the map above are making their voices heard in 51+ media sources.

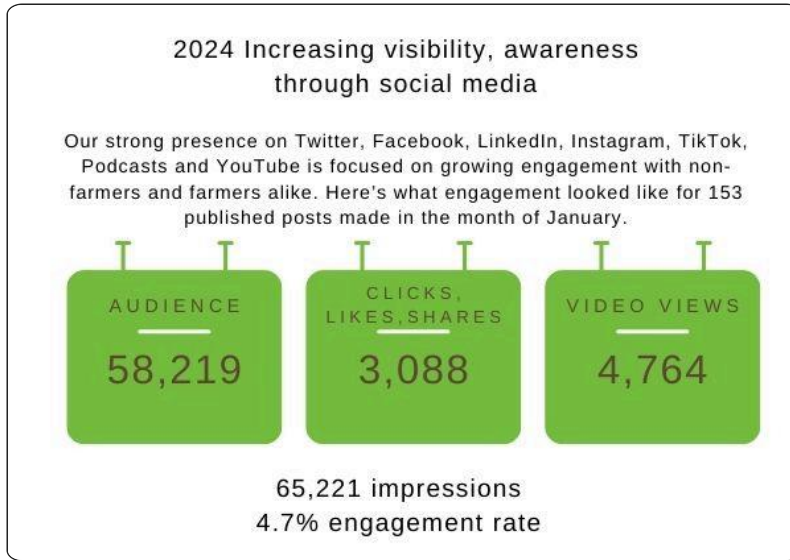
Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, **Canada**, Germany, India, **Kenya**, Netherlands, New Zealand, Scotland, UAE, **UK**, **USA**. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.



Taking Action - GFN Voices Share Information

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024.

n=51



What are the next Global Farmer Network Focus Themes?

February
Technology in Ag

March
Water



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Global Farmer Network

Live Webinar Series 2024

**WATER EFFICIENCY
IN COMPLICATED LOCATIONS**
Part 2

GFN® member speakers:

- Gabriela Cruz, Portugal
- Jenny Holtermann, USA

Register:
<https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar05>
March 28, 2024 - 14:00 GMT

The Global Farmer Network® amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

GFN Announces Next Knowledge Transfer Session

At GFN, we believe in the power of peer-to-peer learning among farmers. Our goal for each session is to facilitate direct exchanges of expertise, techniques and best practices. We're excited to foster connections worldwide.

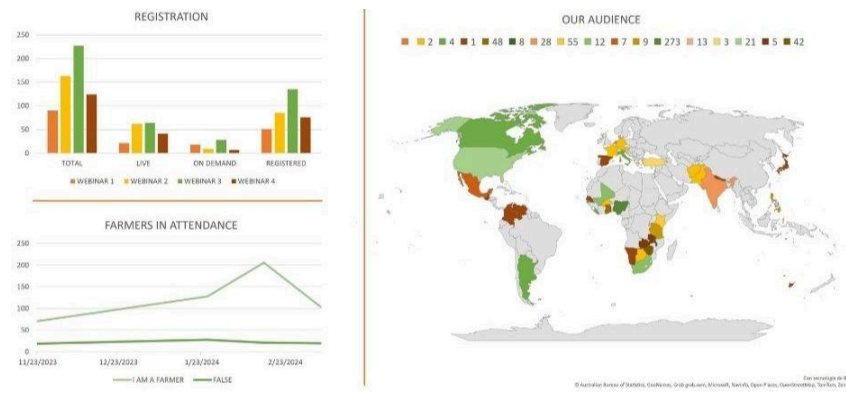
Our next webinar is **March 28**, with part two of *Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations*

To view past sessions, follow the links below:

1. *No-Till Farming* Edgard Ramirez Argentina. November 23
2. *Practical Implementation of No-Till!* Jorge Lopez-Menendez, Argentina. January 25
3. *Market Opportunities from a Farmer's Perspective* Kristjan Hebert, Canada and Paul Temple UK. February 15
4. *Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations* Aaron Moore, UAE and Amadou Sidibe, Mali. March 7

Worldwide Attendance Growing with Each Session!

The below graphic shows registration numbers, breakdown of farmers/non-farmers in attendance, along with the countries of learners at each of the four previous sessions.



GFN Members Recognized for Sharing their Voices



Burrack Recognized for Council Service

The U.S. Grains Council (USGC) recognized Iowa farmer **Tim Burrack**, Iowa for 15 years of service to the organization at its 21st International Membership Meeting and 64th Annual Membership Meeting in Guatemala City, Guatemala, Feb. 14-16. (Photo credit: USGC)

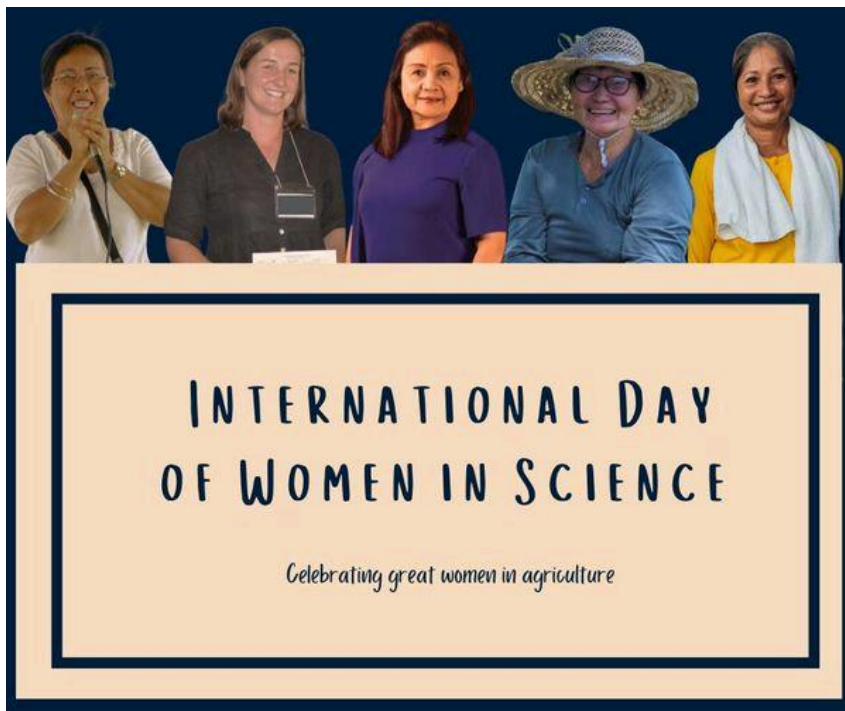


Johnson Recipient of 2024 Top Producer Women in Ag award

Pam Johnson, Iowa is the 2024 Top Producer Women in Ag Award winner. Her achievements on the farm and across the industry led to her receiving the Award, sponsored by the Farm Journal Foundation.

Johnson has held many leadership roles, including becoming the first female president of NCGA, and her legacy is encouraging others to use their voice. "Don't sit back in the corner," she says.

Read the full story about Pam in [Top Producer](#).



Ellasus Recognized on International Day of Women in Science

In 2015, UNESCO established February 11th as International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The Day recognizes the role that women and girls play in science and technology.

Rosalie Ellasus, Philippines is one of the women farmers, who are part of the [Pan-Asia Farmer's Exchange Program](#), celebrated in 2024.

Christie Recognized for Dairy Sector Contributions

One of NFU Scotland's highest accolades, the 2024 Miskelly Award, is awarded to long-serving [NFUS](#) member, Rory Christie for his service to the dairy sector and the role played in milk contract negotiations.

Since 2011, Rory has been a key member of the NFUS milk committee during which time he has helped drive forward its work to secure fairer dairy contracts for all, working collaboratively with the other UK farming Unions and ensuring the best outcomes for Scottish [dairy](#) farmers.

GFN Members Active in February

- **Ravichandran Vanchinathan**, India attended celebrations of Republic Day in India, by invitation of the President.
- **AD Alvarez**, Philippines traveled to Manila to attend a meeting with the Senate to refine a bill about yellow corn. There he met with **Engr. Roger Navarro**, Philippines undersecretary for operations of the Department of Agriculture.
- **Bhola Khatiwada**, Nepal participated in local TV show talking about agriculture and forests.
- **Diane Masure**, France attended the 60th edition of International Meeting of Agriculture (Salon international del'agriculture) focused on soil conservation.
- **Knud Bay-Schmidt**, Denmark visited Denmark's first commercial combined biogas and pyrolyze plant.
- **Rosalie Ellasus**, Philippines and **AD Alvarez**, Philippines attended the celebration for the 20-year anniversary of Yellow Corn in the Philippines.
- **Malwinder Mahli**, India and **PPS Pangli**, India attended an event to talk about biologicals for the world, to have agri-inputs that tackle global challenges.
- **Maria Emilia Macor**, Argentina and **Jose Luis Gonzalez**, Colombia, **Gina Gutierrez**, Mexico led a Communication training in Bogota, Colombia.
- **Diana Lenzi**, Italy and **Patience Koku**, Nigeria co-authored an [op-ed](#) which was published in Euroviews section of [Euronews](#).
- **Jana Gabert**, Germany was [interviewed](#) by a New Zealand journalist via the GFN.
- **Tim Durham**, USA published research: "[Biocontrol potential of endophytic Pseudomonas strain IALR1619 against two Pythium species in cucumber and hydroponic lettuce.](#)" in [PLOS ONE](#).
- **Jake Leguee**, Canada elected Chair of Sask Wheat. Jake has been on the Sask Wheat board since 2017; He chairs the Canadian Wheat Research Coalition (CWRC), previously chaired Sask Wheat's research committee and was a director with Cereals Canada.
- **Andre Dobashi**, Brazil traveled to the US with a Brazilian contingent focused on learning more about how US is incenting for cover crop use.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 265+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



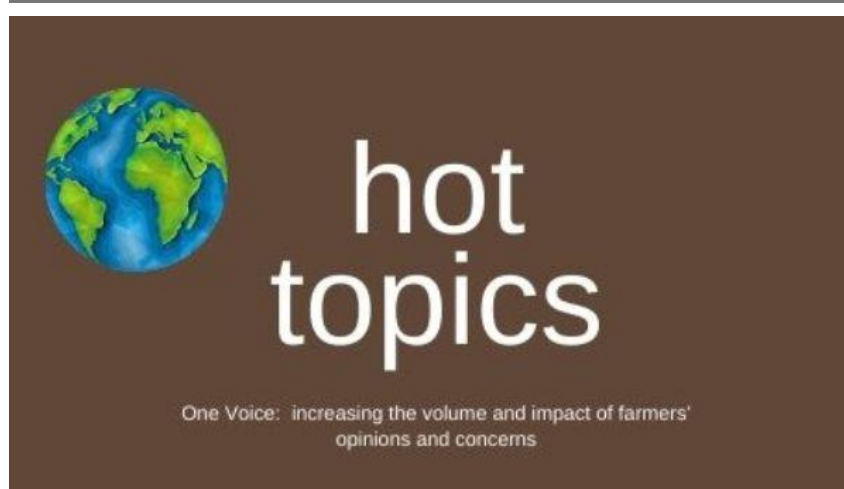
Couser Links Equipment Manufacturer with Local Cattlemen

Bill Couser, USA hosted Klaus Rolf, Head of Public Affairs bei CLAAS KGaA. After Rolf toured Bill's farm, he was the speaker for the February meeting of the Story County Iowa Cattlemen group.

Sasu Provides Leadership to ROPPA



Lydia Sasu, Ghana initiated a network of small scale farmer and fisher based organizations in Ghana to empower individuals and members in order to contribute to agriculture development.

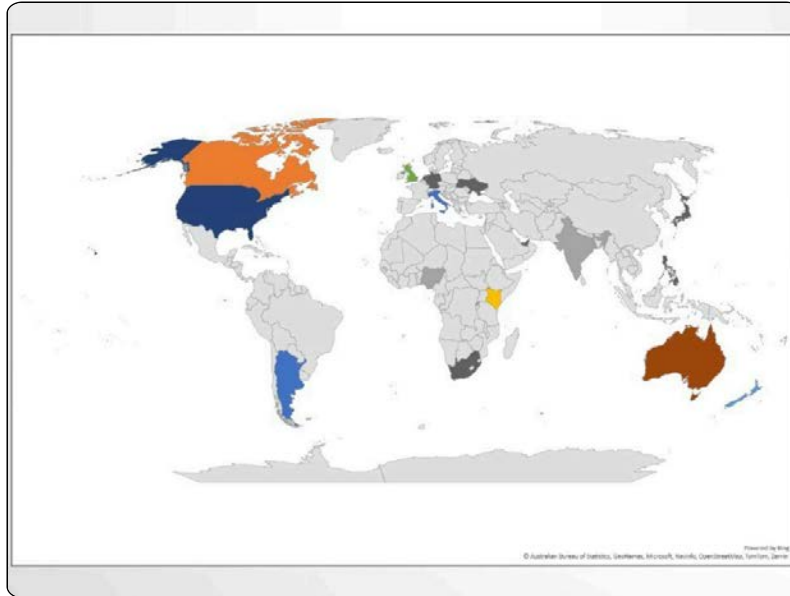


What's Trending: updates gathered from GFN member conversations

- Denmark and Netherlands – Inquiring about low/peat land and that authorities are encouraging farmers to join schemes with flooding the fields with high organic content. Conversations remark how little data authorities have to make decisions.
- Mali – Greenhouse technologies help small farmers in Africa to deliver high quality products.
- Years into the conflict in Ukraine, Polish farmers are blocking the borders with Ukraine. No transport or humanitarian aid could circulate.
 - Tensions are also present with other EU member states, due to commodity imports from Ukraine.
 - Polish protesters open train wagons with Ukrainian grain to prevent it getting to market.
- Denmark – Debate over carbon taxes on natural processes; soon may be a reality for farmers. It may cause livestock farmers to go out of business.
 - There is still a lack of agreement on how each country should tax their emissions or even if a tax should exist at all.
 - Different measuring protocols also cause confusion.

- South Africa – Livestock theft continues. Local farmers organize to bring some of it back.
- UAE – An opportunity for pilot farmers interested in helping a start-up company that is developing off-grid cold storage.

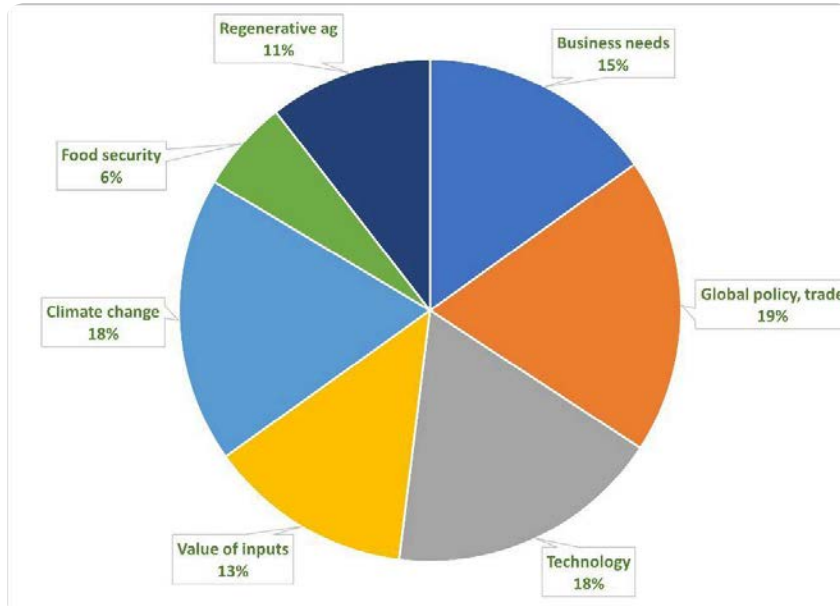
Farmers Address Top-of-mind Issues



GFN Members Making Their Voices Heard

During 2024 to date, 14% of the GFN farmer-membership from the countries highlighted in the map above are making their voices heard in 92+ media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, **Canada**, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.



Taking Action - GFN Voices Share Information

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024.

n=148

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

March

Water

April

Healthy Soil – Healthy Plants – Healthy Planet – Healthy People



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Live Webinar Series 2024

Global Farmer Network

FROM ROOTS TO RUMINANTS
How No-Till & Livestock Work Together

GFN® member speakers:
Gabriel Carballal, Uruguay and Rory Christie, UK

April 18, 2024 - 14:00 GMT
Register at:
<https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar06>

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GFN's Webinar Success Continues: Excitement Builds for 6th Session!

The GFN continues to sponsor webinars with the aim in each to enable direct sharing of knowledge, skills, and top practices. The April 18th webinar, "From Roots to Ruminants," features:

- **Gabriel Carballal** prides himself in using the latest technology as he grows wheat, barley, canola, oats, soybeans and corn, as well as rye grass and other forages for his beef cattle.
- **Rory Christie** specializes in pastoral dairy and pig production. He implements progressive practices and is interested in aligning farming and consumer/retailer demands with net-zero goals in mind.

[Register here.](#)

Not only do these webinars inform, they also inspire. To view past sessions, follow the links below:

1. [No-Till Farming](#) Edgard Ramirez, Argentina. November 23
2. [Practical Implementation of No-Till](#) Jorge Lopez-Menendez, Argentina. January 25
3. [Market Opportunities from a Farmer's Perspective](#) Kristjan Hebert, Canada and Paul Temple, UK. February 15
4. [Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations](#) Aaron Moore, UAE and Amadou Sidibe, Mali. March 7
5. [Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations](#) Gabriela Cruz, Portugal and Jenny Holtermann, USA. March 28

Global Farmer Network Shares Milestones

- GFN (formerly Truth About Trade & Technology) was formed in early 2000.
- The first GFN Roundtable was held in October 2006.

GFN will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2025. In 2026, the GFN will recognize the roundtable program, along with the globalization of GFN.

GFN Members Active Internationally



Koku Speaks at 'Festival of Stewardship'

On March 19th, **Patience Koku**, Nigeria attended the third edition of CropLife International's 'Festival of Stewardship'. This webinar featured expert speaker presentations, interactive panel discussions and live Q&As. The theme was 'unlocking the potential of sustainable agriculture.'

Hughes Invited to South Africa Grains Meeting

Derek Mathews, South Africa, invited fellow GFN member **David Hughes**, Argentina to speak at a South Africa Grains meeting. Listen [here](#).

Mathews serves as Chairman of the organization.



Bhadsavle Teaches Visitors on Regenerative Ag at Regen Agriculture Project

Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle, India led a visit from the World Bank team (pictured with Dr. Oliver Braedt, Asia Chief) to enrich their understanding of the Saguna Regenerative Technique (SRT). Other recent visitors interested in learning more include: Dr. R S Paroda, former Director of ICAR & present Chairman of TAAS, New Delhi; Prof K.V. Raman from Cornell University; students of Indiana University; Hon Mr. Kobbi Shoshani, Israel; DRM Mr. Rajnish Goyal, India. *Photo credit: Saguna Rural Foundation*

GFN Members Active in March

- **Jana Gaebert**, Germany co-wrote an article about the EU vote to re-regulate plants/produce using NGTs. The impasse and lack of agreements among the Parliament, Commission and Council could put on hold the use of innovations in plant breeding.
- **AD Alvarez**, Philippines visited his country's Senate and GFN member **Roger Navarro**, Philippines currently the Under-Secretary of Ag.

- **Amadou Sidibe**, Mali was recognized as the most influential personality in agribusiness in Mali.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 265+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



No-Till Video Shot in Brazil

To educate on no-till, **Shuichi Tokumoto**, Japan visited **Vicente Bissoni Neto's** farm in Brazil, Group Botuvera Vincente. This [video](#) explains the no-till process while showing farming methods.

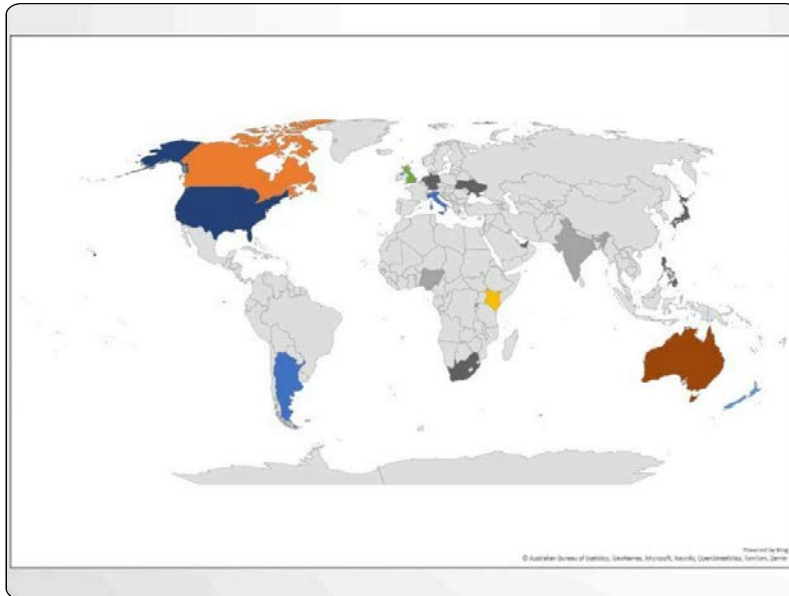


Commemorating Dr. Borlaug's Birthday

Hope Pjeski, USA visited India, where she met with **PPS Pangli**, India and **Malwinder Mahli**, India. The group gathered in the [wheat fields of Punjab Agricultural University](#), on March 25th for a celebration of Dr. Norman Borlaug's birthday.

Globally, members of GFN reflected on Borlaug's contributions to enhanced crop yields, food security, and the initiation of the Green Revolution.

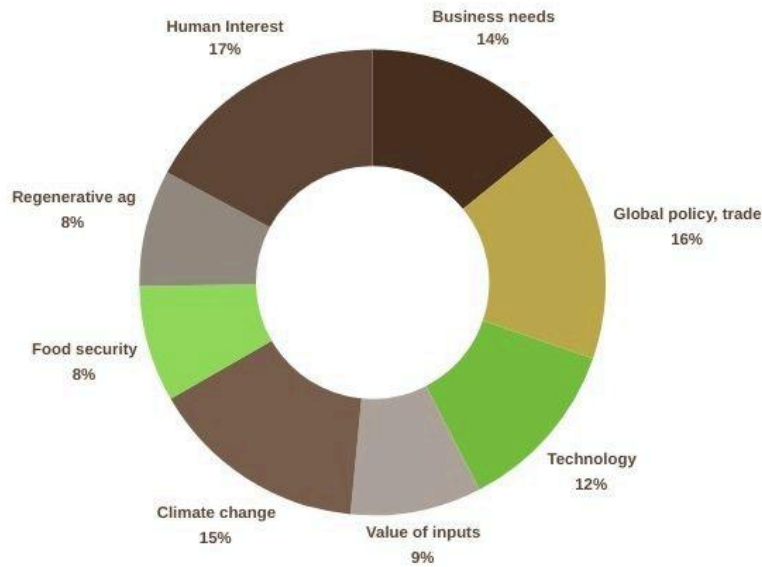
[Farmers Address Top-of-mind Issues](#)



GFN Members Making Their Voices Heard

During 2024 to date, 21% of the GFN farmer-membership from the countries highlighted in the map above are making their voices heard in 92+ media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, **Canada**, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Netherlands, **New Zealand**, Nigeria, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.



Taking Action - GFN Voices Share Information

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=203

2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



238,657 impressions
3.9% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

April

Healthy Soil – Healthy Plants – Healthy Planet – Healthy People

May

Biodiversity Protection Around the World



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Live webinar series 2024



Global Farmer Network

HARVESTING HOPE

Unlocking the Power of Seed Technology in Africa




GFN® member speakers:

- > **Motlatsi Musi, South Africa**
- > **Stella Thomas, Nigeria**



May 30, 2024 - 14:00 GMT

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar08>

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Purposeful Farmer to Farmer Connections in GFN Webinar Series

Starting in November 2023, GFN sponsored webinars have garnered a strong following. Each webinar offers presentations by GFN members who directly share knowledge, skills, and top practices. The GFN has become more interactive with farmers at the field level, and farmer to farmer connections have become more purposeful.

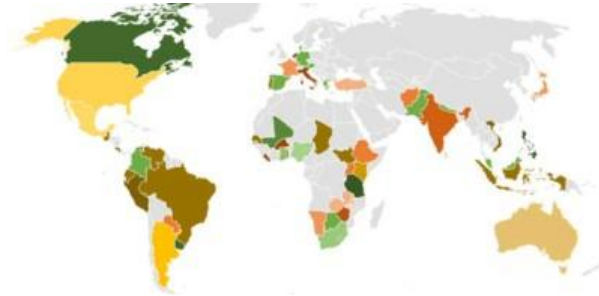
The next webinar in the series is May 30th! See above information to register.

To view past sessions, follow the links below:

1. [*No-Till Farming*](#) Edgard Ramirez, Argentina. November 23
2. [*Practical Implementation of No-Till*](#) Jorge Lopez-Menendez, Argentina. January 25
3. [*Market Opportunities from a Farmer's Perspective*](#) Kristjan Hebert, Canada and Paul Temple, UK. February 15
4. [*Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations*](#) Aaron Moore, UAE and Amadou Sidibe, Mali. March 7
5. [*Water Efficiency in Complicated Locations*](#) Gabriela Cruz, Portugal and Jenny Holtermann, USA. March 28
6. [*From Roots to Ruminants, how no-till and livestock work together*](#) Gabriel Carballal, Uruguay and Rory Christie, UK. April 18
7. [*Cultivating Experiences, a guide to sustainable Farm-to-Guest Hospitality*](#) Diana Lenzi, Italy and Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle, India. May 9

1,062 Farmers Indicate Interest in GFN Webinars

The below map shows all countries represented at GFN webinars. The top 10 countries by attendance, from highest to lowest are: Nigeria, India, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Ghana, USA, South Africa, Rwanda, Mali, Philippines.



GFN Members Teach, Learn About International Ag



Olivera Represents COSAVE at CPM-18

Leonardo Olivera, Uruguay attended CPM-18 (Commission on Phytosanitary Measures) at FAO headquarters, in his role of Chair of COSAVE (Committee of Plant Health of the Southern Cone).

Holtkoetter Shares Knowledge with Italian Farmers

Marcus Holtkoetter, Germany, welcomed a group of Italian farmers who toured his farm and German agriculture.





Okech Serves on Judging Panel at University of Iowa

Dave Okech, Kenya was part of the panel of judges at the University of Iowa College of Public Health, Iowa, USA as part of a student case competition revolving around fish and public health in Homa County Kenya. Learn more [here](#).

de Vor Speaks on Innovation in Ag

Judith de Vor, Netherlands took part in a 2-day workshop event in Poland on employment and innovation for women in ag and rural areas.



Bhadsavles Visit World Food Prize

Chandrashekar Bhadsavle and his wife, farmers in India, visited the World Food Prize in Des Moines, Iowa, USA. Shekhar and his wife also connected with fellow GFN members – the stories and conversation are always amazing when members come together!

GFN Members Active in April

- India – **Vijay Kapoor** attended and facilitated part of a two-day workshop for farmers on soil health and environmental sustainability. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Mali – **Amadou Sidibe** participated in a panel of the Committee of West and Central Africa for Agricultural Research.
- Nigeria – **Patience Koku** was a witness of the signature of a MOU between Bayer Crop Science and Niger State, Nigeria.
- UK – **Rory Christie's** project 'Fast Breeders' was featured on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation website as a tool to help communities thrive through "remarkable cows".

- USA – **CS Prakash** (GFN Advisory Council member) elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).
- Ukraine – **Kees Huizinga** hosted a group of Kenyan farmers.
- South Africa – **Motlatsi Musi** attended the Provincial Farmers Day in Gauteng.
- Germany – **Jana Gäbert**, along with her husband, received a regional award in the category of Environment, Climate Neutrality and Health, for their engagement in agriculture, environmental protection, biodiversity, and for also being intermediaries between farmers and politicians.
- Denmark – **Knud Bay-Smidt** participated in an EU meeting regarding regenerative agriculture/soil health.
- Featured in [Bonus Eventus Favorable Outcomes](#) newsletter - April 29, 2024 were **Guillermo Breton**, Mexico: [Mexico's glyphosate ban puts bad politics over sound science](#) and **Joanna Lidback**, USA: [Neonics a game changer for farmers in Vermont and the rest of America](#).

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 265+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



Carballal Tours Livestock Ag; Is Panel Member

Gabriel Carballal led a group of 19 Uruguay farmers to Texas, USA to learn more about livestock production.

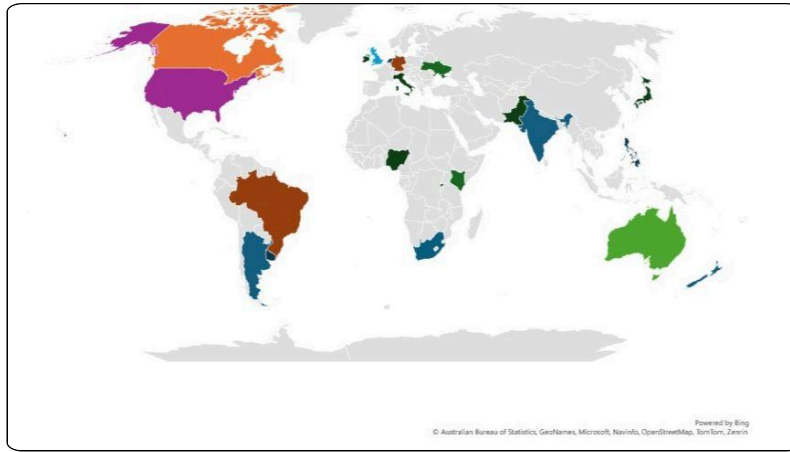
Gabriel also participated in a April 11th panel “Genetics is the answer”, alongside the Uruguayan Minister of Agriculture, seed companies and a genetics organization.



GFN Meets with Officials on Capitol Hill

Bill Couser, Iowa, USA was joined by **Elly Sukup**, GFN Director of Programs, in Washington, DC, USA to meet with Secretary Vilsack, Under Secretary Bonnie and several members of Congress.

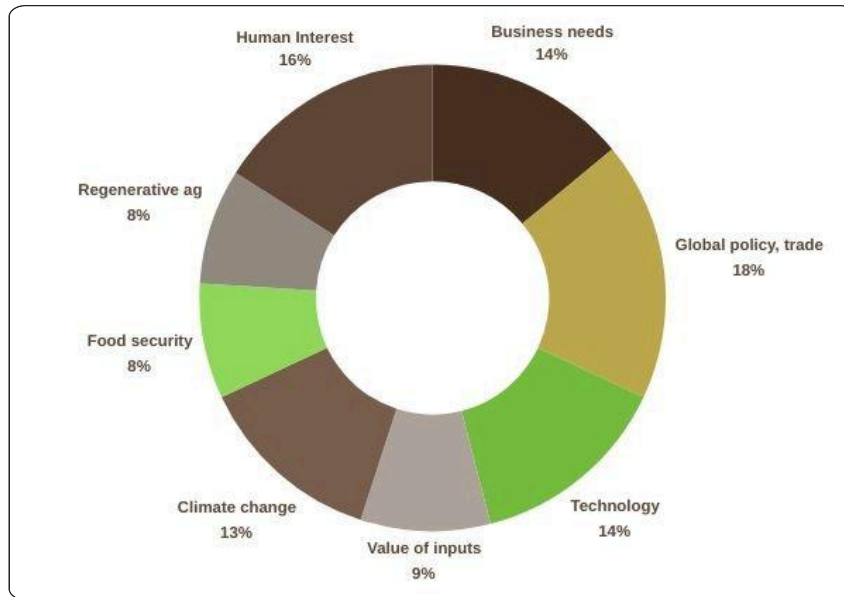
Farmers Address Top-of-mind Issues



GFN Members Making Their Voices Heard

During 2024 to date, 23% of the GFN farmer-membership from the countries highlighted in the map above are making their voices heard in 145+ media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.



Taking Action - GFN Voices Share Information

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=241

2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



306,643 impressions
4.3% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

May

Biodiversity Protection Around the World

June

Dairy: Nutrition, Biodiversity, Sustainable Agriculture & Livelihoods



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Free GFN Webinar

Learn about the challenges farmers face in advocating for their needs and ensuring their voices are heard during elections and policy discussions.

Live webinar series 2024

Global Farmer Network

BOOTS ON THE GROUND, EYES ON THE VOTES

Elections and the farmers' voice

GFN® member speakers:

- **Judith de Vor, Netherlands**
- **Sudhanshu Kumar, India**
- **Jose Luis Quintana, Mexico**

July 11, 2024 - 14:00 GMT

<https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar10>

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GFN farmers will share from their personal experiences on July 11, 14:00 GMT. Register [here](#).

Enjoy our **farmer-led approach** in action, with exceptional voices ready to share their expertise:

- **Judith de Vor** takes care of dairy cattle on a modern and sustainable farm, where respect for nature and animal welfare are priorities. She and her family have several projects for increasing biodiversity. She is an active voice for several organizations, including the dairy cooperative she's part of, and is constantly engaged in policy discussions.
- **Sudhanshu Kumar** grows maize, wheat, litchi, mango, bananas and guava on 175 acres in India. He also operates 65 acres of orchards under micro irrigation and has solar powered cold storage on his farm. He considers he owns the most technologically advanced farm in the state of Bihar, and is an active advocate for genetic engineering, mechanization and micro irrigation.
- **Jose Luis Quintana** farms with 3 generations of his family. His own agricultural company has reached 250 acres of arable land, growing alfalfa, peanuts, wheat, corn and cotton. On an additional 4000 acres, he raises cattle using regenerative livestock practices.

The webinar will be recorded and can be found on [YouTube](#) following the live event.



Global Farmers Vetted, Trained with Purpose, Connected and Prepared to Mobilize

The Global Farmer Network Roundtable and Communication Training program was held June 24-28 in the United Kingdom. The program included virtual sessions prior to, and following the in-person UK event. All components of the training was led by farmers who are GFN members.

Pre-meeting virtual sessions focused on the significance of personal stories in advocating for agriculture, led by Gina Gutierrez, Community Outreach Advocate, who stressed the importance of crafting stories with a purpose to inform, persuade, or inspire. Participants were tasked with creating short stories based on positive aspects and setbacks in farming to develop their main message. The goal is to connect with others emotionally and change misconceptions about agriculture through powerful storytelling strategies. The sessions provided insights into effective story creation for fostering connections within agricultural communities and influencing global perspectives on farming practices.

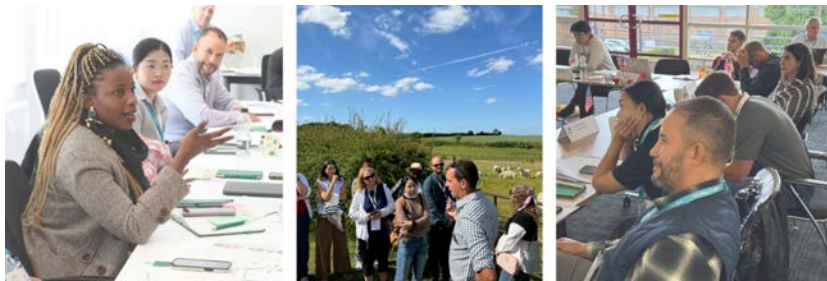
Key themes in cohort stories developed include:

- Family legacy
- Environmental stewardship
- Technological innovation
- Motivating change in farming practices
- Importance of collaboration
- Overcoming obstacles
- Inspiring youth and women in agriculture

Here are some examples of the stories developed:

- Vietnam, Peru, Zambia: discovering a passion for agriculture despite initial resistance or lack of exposure
- Malawi, India, Kenya: overcoming challenges and struggles in farming, such as climate change, low profitability, lack of resources
- Spain, Paraguay, USA: leveraging technology, innovation, and education to improve farming practices and outcomes
- Philippines, India, Paraguay: advocating for sustainable agriculture and sharing knowledge to help other farmers
- Laos, Vietnam, Spain, Mexico: importance of family, mentors, and community

The UK meeting agenda also included the following: additional communications training; a Diplomacy Day including visits to the National Farmers Union and US Embassy; multiple roundtable discussions where agriculture's challenges were discussed; a farm visit and discussion with local farmers at Thrales End farm. On the final day, the cohort toured Syngenta's Jeallot's Hill International Research Centre.



The Newest Members of the GFN

Selected from more than 230 nominations, join us in offering congratulations to the farmers who are part of the 2024 cohort!

Learn more about each by clicking on each name:

- [Antonio Cabrera Mano Filho](#), Brazil
- [Nestor Raul Munoz-Mazo](#), Colombia
- [Rasika Anil Phatak](#), India
- [Lucy Wangari Wanjiku](#), Kenya
- [Phonpaseuth Phaphou Ngeun](#), Lao People's Democratic Republic
- [Blessings Malefula](#), Malawi
- [Rene Lopez Fonseca](#), Mexico
- [David Noguera Blanco](#), Paraguay
- [Monica Ognio](#), Peru
- [Emmanuel Manny Piñol](#), Philippines
- [Juan Alberto Cabrera Garcia](#), Spain
- [Mitchell Hora](#), United States-Iowa
- [Huynh Thi Tuyet Huong](#), Vietnam
- [Elizabeth Maanda Sianga](#), Zambia

Contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org to connect directly with a member of the cohort.

Nominations Are Being Accepted for 2025

To submit a farmer's nomination for the next Roundtable and Communication training, please [complete this form](#).

Addressing Current, Critical Issues

GFN Members Active in May, June

- Brazil – **Yara de Geus** and **Vicente Bissoni** shared the stage at Innovation Forum to talk about financial risks and opportunities in the age of global climate action.
- Denmark – **Knud Bay-Smidt** participated in an event regarding the definition of regenerative agriculture on behalf of the Danish organization for no-till.
- Netherlands – **Judith de Vor** was a panelist at the International Cool Farm Alliance.
- India – **V. Ravichandran** shared his success story of planting hybrid rice that has resistance against BLB and BPH by using Molecular Marker Assisted Breeding Technology: His yield increased by 55%, compared to the second-best hybrid.
- UK – **Paul Temple** attended the Civil Society Conference as part of the UNEP Farmers Major Group.
- Puerto Rico – **Efren Robles** is featured in a video showing his farm's sustainability. The video promotes awareness about eco-friendly practices and the significance of local, Puerto Rican produce.
- India – **Ganesh Nanote** presented at the Agricultural University in Akola. **Malwinder Malhi**, India was in attendance.
- India – **Chandrashekhara Bhadsavle** hosted the Saguna Rural Foundation's fifth annual function for Saguna Rice Technique (SRT). **Malwinder Malhi** and **Ganesh Nanote** were in attendance, along with farmers from eight agroclimatic zones.
- Featured in [Bonus Eventus Favorable Outcomes](#) newsletter - May 28, 2024 is **Rosalie Ellasus**, Philippines: [Golden Rice is an opportunity worth fighting for](#)
- Argentina – **Emi Macor**, Aapresid Young Chair, coordinated a webinar about corn Spiroplasma in collaboration with The Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, Embrapa.
- Colombia – **Jose Luis Gonzalez** attended the largest poultry convention in the country, delivering ideas to help Colombian poultry farmers.
- Germany – **Jana Gäbert** was the farmers voice on the panel "Transformation of Agriculture," at Schloss Bellevue, the official residence of the Federal President of Germany.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 275+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.

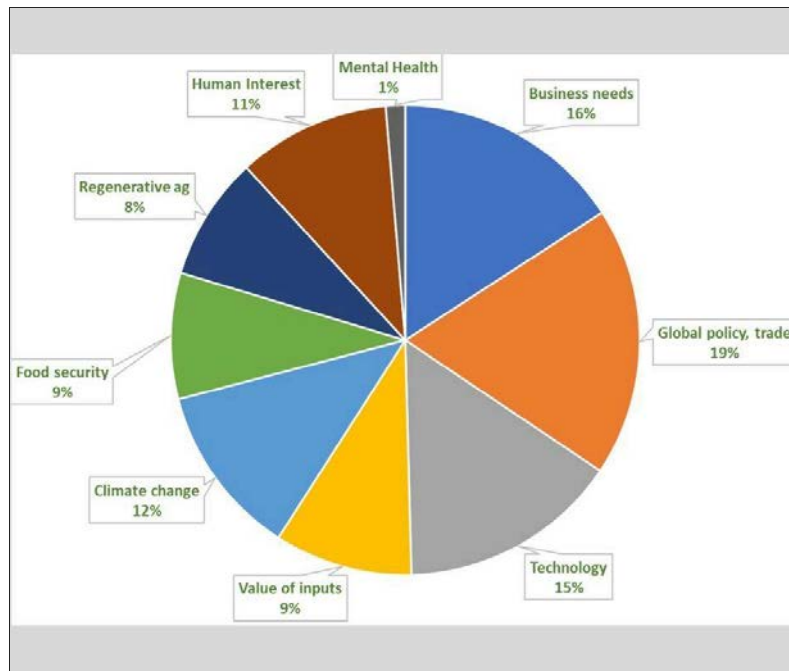


During 2024 to date, 27% of the GFN farmer-membership from the countries highlighted in the map above are making their voices heard in 171+ different media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.

Stepping Forward - Farmer Insights from GFN Voices

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=304



2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



494,462 impressions
4.6% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

July

The power of Collaboration and Cooperatives

August

Next Generation Agriculture



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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Global Farmer Network[®]

JULY 2024 RESULTS

Connecting farmers and amplifying our voices



GFN Foundation Holds Annual Business Meeting in North Carolina

As the GFN will mark its 25th year in 2025, along with the usual business, the results of a strategy road mapping project was presented at the July 31-Aug 1 GFN Foundation annual business meeting.

The project provides an assessment and the map prepares the GFN for forward growth. The four 2024-2027 GFN Strategic Goals:

- Amplify farmer advocacy and influence
- Magnify global reach
- Enhance knowledge transfer and training
- Strengthen strategic partnerships and collaboration

The road map will keep the GFN accountable to the GFN's mission. The Board, committees, and others will continue to share and bring ideas to the organization. The board is the keeper and driver of the mission:

- *Mission statement: The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.*



The GFN is well prepared to continue to work to help farmers share their voices! Present at the meeting was Shuichi Tokumoto, Japan, the 2024 GFN Kleckner Global Farm Leader award recipient.

Shuichi presented a powerpoint presentation about his farming operation and his work through the GFN to share knowledge with Japanese farmers.

Shuichi presented his most recent music video "[NO-TILL](#)" to the group.

Following the meeting, the board, staff, advisory council and industry council members toured the BASF greenhouses at the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina campus.

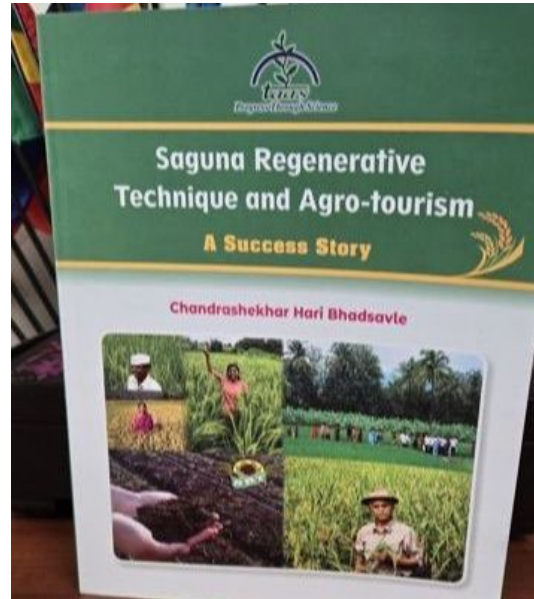
Bhadsavale Receives Farmer Leadership Award; Authors Book



Chandrashekhar 'Shekhar' Bhadsavale, India has been honored with the Farmer Leadership Award, presented in Delhi.

This award is a significant recognition of Shekhar's unwavering commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture.

He continues to advocate for the Saguna Regenerative Technique (SRT), which is conservation agriculture using zero tillage.



Shekhar recently authored the book Saguna Regenerative Technique and Agro-tourism: a success story. It discusses the innovative, sustainable, and productive practices SRT continues to bring to various regions in Maharashtra.

GFN Members Tour Scotland's Ag

Two members of the GFN 2023 cohort, Rory Christie, Scotland and Diane Masure, France reviewed ways Scottish farmers manage soil preservation and nature friendly farming.





Sasu Presents at FAO-Rome

Lydia Sasu, Ghana was a featured speaker at the FAO-Rome small scale fishers meeting. Lydia is the GFN's 2015 Kleckner Global Farm Leader award recipient.

Peiretti Shares No-Till Experience

Roberto Peiretti, Argentina spoke to 1,600 agronomists in Cordoba City about no-till agriculture at a July meeting.

Roberto manages a farming operation which grows corn, soybeans, sorghum, sunflower, wheat, barley, oats, and forage crops all under no-till.



Hora Shares Insights on AgriPulse

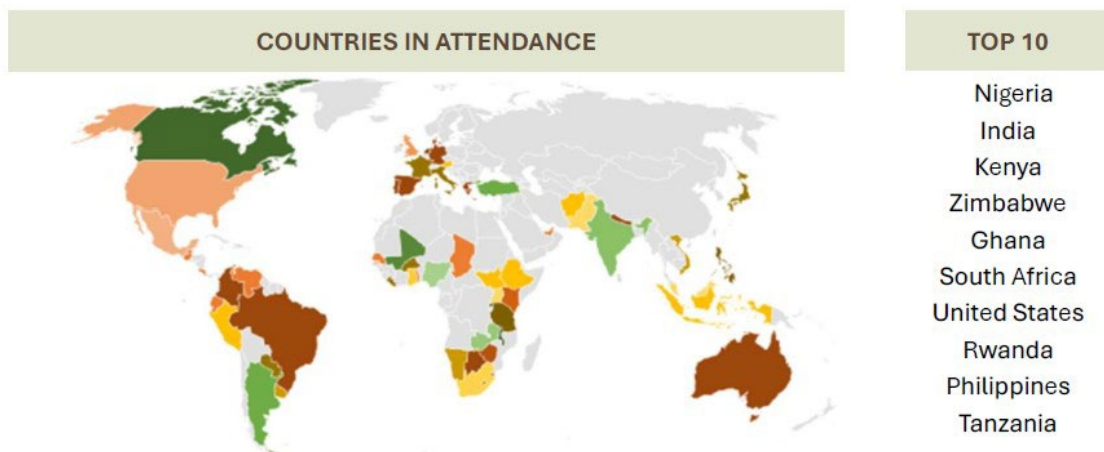
Mitchell Hora, USA authored an article on sustainable aviation fuel, [Opinion: Collaboration with farmers is essential to building america's sustainable aviation fuel market](#). Mitchell stresses the ways meaningful action can take place between farmers and policymakers.

Nominations Are Being Accepted for 2025 Cohort

Do you know a farmer who embraces technology and the application of science within agriculture, who understands the value it brings in meeting the challenges of food security driven by a growing population and climate change? If yes, please [complete this form](#) to submit that nomination for the next Roundtable and Communication training which will be held in Costa Rica in June 2025 (date to be confirmed).

GFN Webinars Bring Large Audiences; Meet Goals

The GFN continues to deliver a successful webinar series. To date, 10 webinars have been delivered with presentations delivered by GFN members from 18 different countries. The below map shows the countries represented by attendees (cumulative for the series):



The next webinar will be held on September 12th at 2:00 PM GMT! Discover the surprising power of music and collaboration in transforming agriculture. Our GFN members, Shuichi Tokumoto (Japan) and Vicente Bissoni (Brazil), will share a groundbreaking story of global cooperation through music and sustainable farming practices. Moderated by Marcus Holtkötter (Germany), this webinar will be a dynamic conversation about innovation and partnership in agriculture.

Live webinar series 2024
globalfarmernetwork.org

ROCK AND ROLL FARMING

THE POWER OF MUSIC AND COLLABORATION

GFN® member speakers:

- Shuichi Tokumoto – Japan
- Vicente Bissoni – Brazil
- Marcus Holtkötter – Germany, moderator

September 12, 2024 – 14:00 GMT
<https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar12>

The Global Farmer Network® amplifies the farmer's voice by promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.
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Here's what you'll gain:

- Learn how music is used as a learning tool for innovation.
- Explore how farmers from different continents are collaborating for a better future.

- Gain insights from experienced farmers like Shuichi and Vicente.

Register now! <https://tinyurl.com/GFNwebinar12>

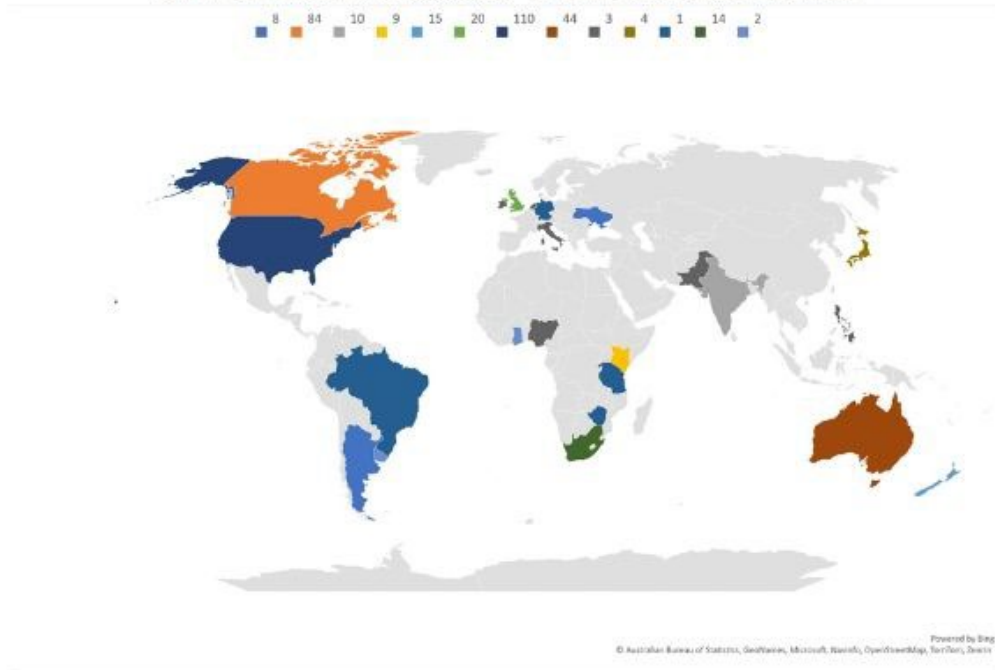
Addressing Current, Critical Issues

GFN Members Active in July

- Featured in [Bonus Eventus Favorable Outcomes](#) newsletter - July 15, 2024 is **Giorgio Fidenato**, Italy: [Farmers stand up for GM technology in Italy](#)
- Japan - **Shuichi Tokumoto**, visited **Paul Temple's** UK farm to keep on learning about biotechnology and no-till.
- Tanzania - **Saustine Lusanzu**, attended the Summer School on Climate Justice at Thika University in Kenya.
- India - **Malwinder Malhi** is participating in an agri-skills training program for young farmers. He also participated in the Safe and Judicious use of pesticides training to rural youth.
- Pakistan - **Mohammad Farook** will participate in a research project about seeds and tissue culturing with the Agricultural Research Institute of Tarnab.
- Philippines - **Manny Piñol** started a search for the biggest breadfruit (endemic) as part of his advocacy efforts to boost production and for re-greening the bald mountains of the country.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 275+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.

GFN MEMBERS MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD

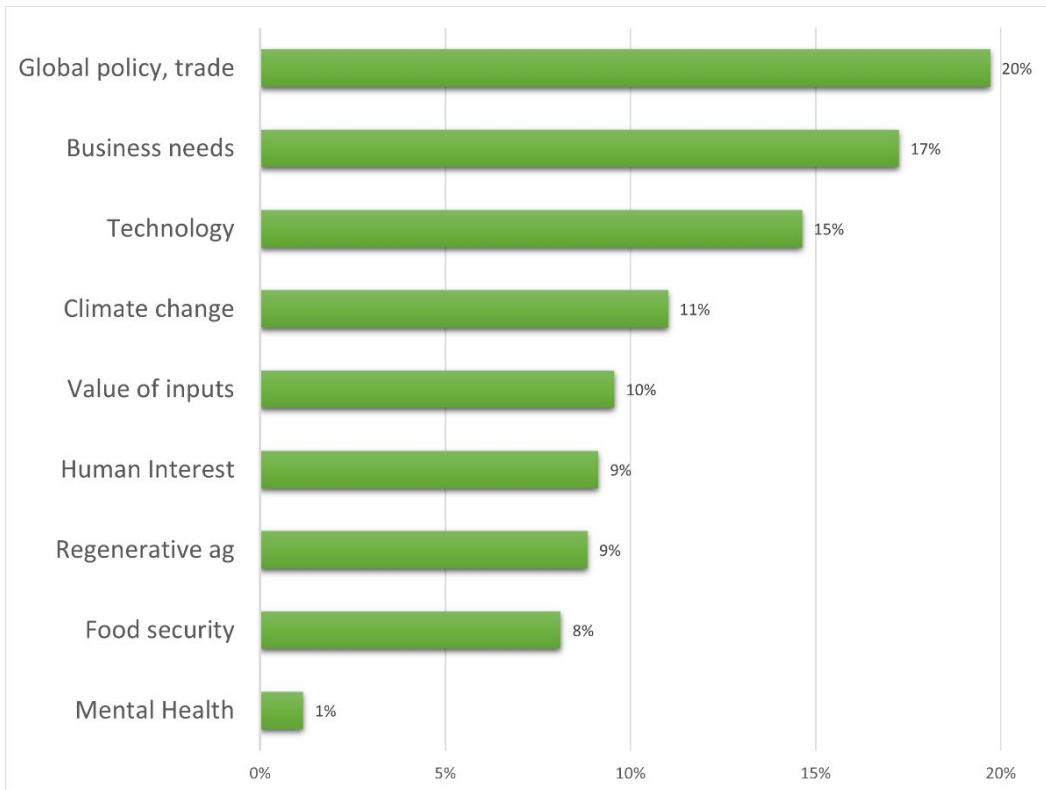


During 2024 to date, 25% of the GFN farmer-membership, from the countries highlighted in the map above, are making their voices heard in 192+ different media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, Tanzania, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.

Stepping Forward - Farmer Insights from GFN Voices

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=359



2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



539,288 impressions
4.7% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

August

Next Generation Agriculture

September

Food Security for Peace



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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The Global Farmer Network launched its pilot **Africa Agriculture Accelerator Pathway** at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya. From August 12-14, 2024, the GFN convened 15 farmers from East, West, and Southern Africa to learn about each other’s agribusinesses, the CGIAR research currently being conducted in Kenya and beyond, and to discuss potential partnerships between government, research, and the private sector. Representatives from the US Embassy (USDA-FAS), WWF, AGCO, OCP, CropLife Africa, and Bayer also participated over the three days. As a result of the discussions, the 15 farmer participants are seeking to achieve the following outcome:

Our African networks increase their profitability through sustainable ag-tech adoption by 1) Inspiring our network to believe they can increase profitability; 2) Increasing our networks' adoption of ag-tech solutions, and 3) Advocating to key opinion leaders, stakeholders and decision-makers to promote and support solutions that will increase profitability.

The GFN will showcase this farmer-led process and subsequent results as a case study during the Africa Food Systems Forum in fall 2025.

Participants included: Lucy Kaari, Kenya; Felix Kili, Kenya; Willy Kirwa, Kenya; Dave Okech, Kenya; Lucy Wangari, Kenya; Sibusiso Goodwill Gule, Eswatini; Moses Nganwani Tia, Ghana; Maness Nkhata, Malawi; Amadou Sidibe, Mali; Olawale, Rotimi Opeyemi, Nigeria; Stella Thomas, Nigeria; Emma Naluyima, Uganda; Kaahwa Jean Rwamukaga, Uganda; Jorge Lopez Menendez, West Africa / Argentina; Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe.



Couser Visited by German Executives

Bill Couser, USA recently welcomed guests from Germany: Cathrina Claas-Muhlhauser, CLAAS Chairwoman and member of CLAAS owner family and Christian Radons, CLAAS Group Executive Board. Couser provided an in-depth look at Iowa farming sustainable practices and use of innovative technologies. They also visited an ethanol plant, where the guests learned about the production process and renewable energy.



Roberts Leads Liberia Ag Association

Serving as Executive Director of Universal Farmers Association, Semeh Roberts is currently implementing a project titled: Strengthen the Resilience of Rural Female Farmers through Diversified Income Possibilities in RiverGee County, Liberia.

[UFA](#) is dedicated to enhancing and promoting sustainable farming practices. It serves as a central hub for ag innovation, education, and support for farmers.



GFN Sharing Tips Weekly

The GFN has launched a new weekly series with tips to help our readers advocate for agriculture. The GFN's mission is to *amplify the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security* and these tips empower you to help us in this mission.



Couser Hosts Global Event

The Farm Progress Show (Boone, IA) recently concluded, and again this year, Bill Couser hosted hundreds of people along the ag-value chain including farmers from around the world, and their partners in production, processing, government and research at a Sweet Corn & Bologna meal on Tuesday, August 27th and he also hosted the 'PARTY in the Pasture' on Wednesday August 28. Each event was more than just a social gathering; it provided an invaluable opportunity for networking, knowledge sharing, and building connections that have been fostered through various programs, including the Global Farmer Network.

Thirteen members of the GFN from six different countries were in attendance. This diverse group of farmers made the event a truly global gathering.

Each evening offered a fantastic opportunity to tell the GFN story. Additionally, each night Shuichi Tokumoto's inspiring "[No Till](#)" music video was featured, which perfectly aligned with our commitment to sustainable farming practices.

On August 29th, Bill, Marcus Holtkoetter, Germany and Gabriel Carballal, Uruguay were featured in this [WHO radio interview](#).



Boote Honored by World Food Prize Foundation

The World Food Prize Foundation has selected Mary Boote, USA as a member of their inaugural Top Agrifood Pioneers (TAP) List. This prestigious recognition honors outstanding contributions to transforming food systems worldwide.

Ravichandran Vanchinatha Iyer, India shares an example of Mary's influence:

"Without your encouragement, Mary, I might have remained just another farmer, struggling with despair and feeling helpless. Your tireless efforts to identify and support farmers from the farthest corners of the world—urging us to speak up for science, advocate for our rights, and amplify our voices—have transformed countless farmers into leaders."

As a member of the first TAP cohort, she joins a distinguished network of trailblazers dedicated to co-learning and collaboration across food systems.

A promotional poster for the Sustainable Agriculture Summit & Awards 2024. The poster features the event title in blue and black text, the tagline "Nurturing a Greener Tomorrow for Viksit Bharat", and a photo of Ganesh Nanote. It also includes the date "August 07, 2024" and the location "India Habitat Centre, New Delhi". Logos for AgriculturePost.com, IndiAgri, and gyan matters are at the top.

Nanote, Puppalwar Participate in Sustainable Ag Summit & Awards 2024

Ganesh Nanote, India served on the awards committee for the Sustainable Agriculture Summit & Awards 2024 event. Prakash Puppalwar, India spoke at the event.

This is India's [show on sustainability](#) on All India Radio featuring ministers, bureaucrats, CEOs, celebrities, influencers, academics and civil society leaders on the challenges and opportunities in pursuing sustainability.

A row of logos for sponsors and knowledge partners. On the left, it says "Supported by National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)" with the NFL logo. In the middle, it says "Sponsors" with logos for IPL Biologics and SFAC. On the right, it says "Knowledge Partners" with logos for NIFD, SFAC, and tri.



Alvarez Addresses APEC Meeting Remotely

AD Alvarez, Philippines recently delivered a remote address at the APEC meeting held in Peru. Despite the physical distance, Alvarez's participation brought a farmer's perspective to the discussions, and a critical voice on the topic of Secured Finance Reform for Food Security.

Nominations Are Being Accepted for 2025 Cohort

Do you know a farmer who embraces technology and the application of science within agriculture, who understands the value it brings in meeting the challenges of food security driven by a growing population and climate change? If yes, please [complete this form](#) to submit that nomination for the next Roundtable and Communication training which will be held in Costa Rica in June 2025 (date to be confirmed).

GFN Members to Speak at WFP



The October 29-31, 2024 Borlaug Dialogue will bring together global leaders, experts, and innovators to discuss critical issues in food security and agricultural development. This year's event promises engaging sessions and networking opportunities with key figures in the field, including GFN members Judith de Vor, Netherlands; Stella Thomas, Nigeria; Shuichi Tokumoto, Japan.

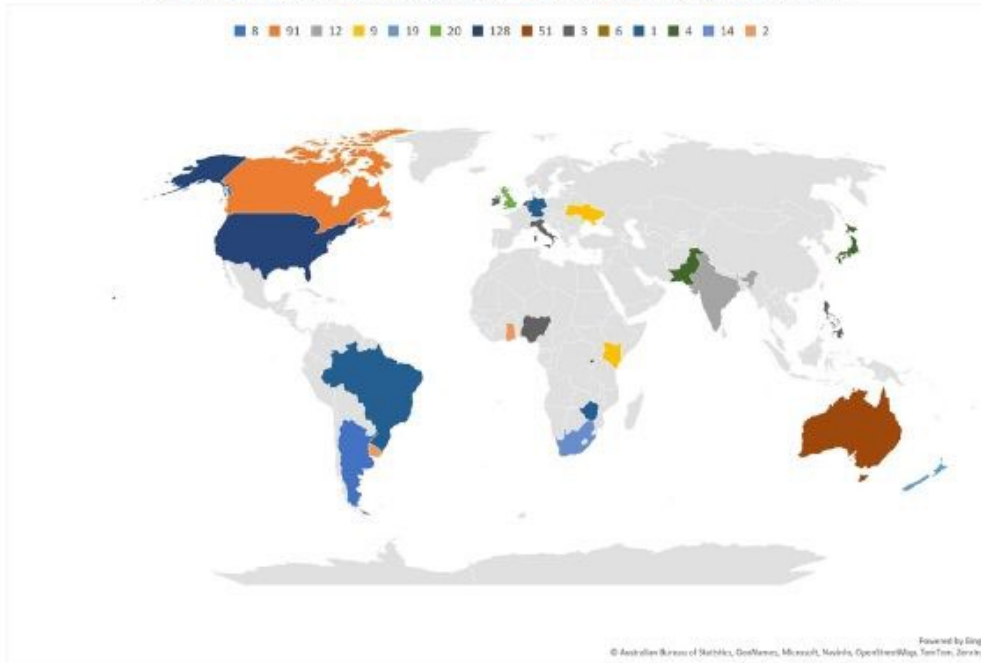
Addressing Current, Critical Issues

GFN Members Active in August

- Featured in [Bonus Eventus Favorable Outcomes](#) newsletter - is **Paul Temple**, UK: [U.K. farmer defends GM oilseed rape, neonics for food security](#)
- Philippines - **AD Alvarez** and **David Danio Jr**, met at the Plant Variety Awareness Raising seminar. AD Alvarez was a panelist and was able to respond to the irruption of MASIPAG (sponsored by Greenpeace) that protested against UPOV (an international group for the protection of vegetable varieties).
- Philippines - **Rosalie Ellasus** attended the Corporate Farming Program to share what she's learned on regenerative agriculture and how it will benefit farmers in the country.
- India - **Malwinder Malhi** participated in the AI-Powered Agricultural Revolution for Small Farmers conference.
- Uruguay - **Gabriel Carballal** was featured in an article in [Valor Agricola](#) about his role in the GFN, and how the GFN amplifies the farmer's voice.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the GFN 275+ members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.

GFN MEMBERS MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD



During 2024 to date, 29% of the GFN farmer-membership, from the countries highlighted in the map above, are making their voices heard in 205+ different media sources.

Those countries are: Argentina, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, Tanzania, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.

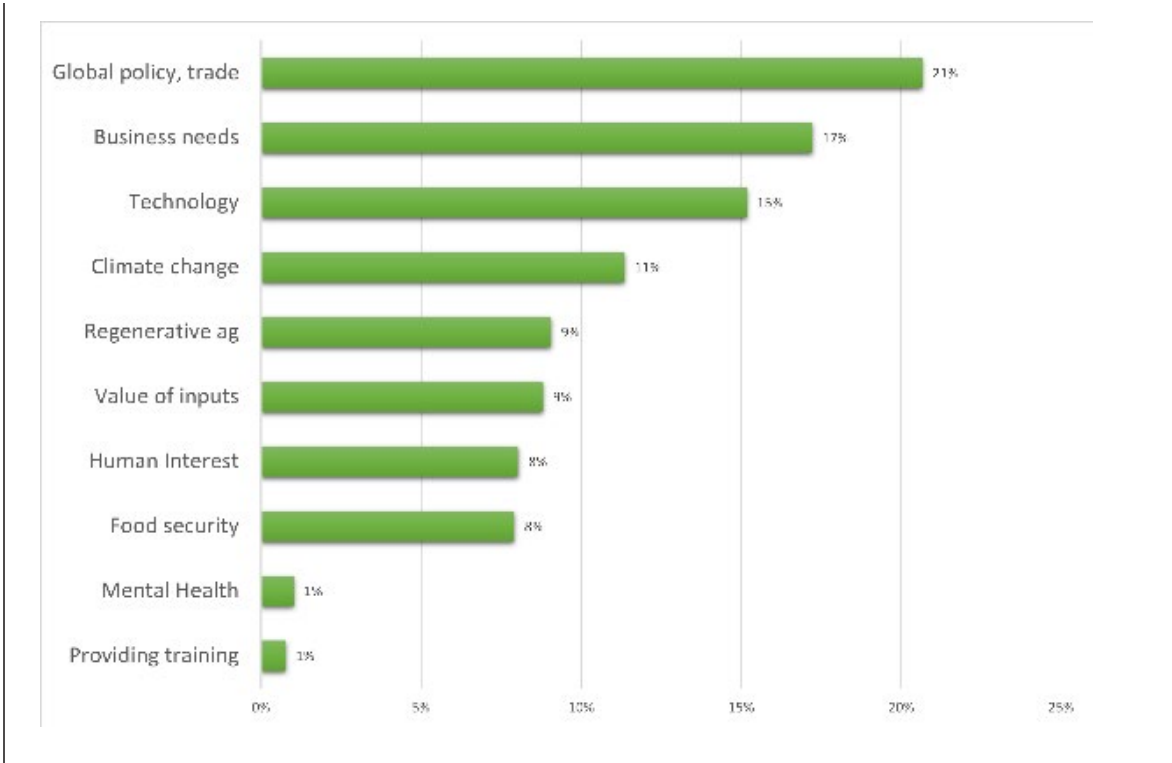
Discover Examples of GFN Activity

Click on each link for a 1-page document featuring major highlights from each time period:

- [GFN April-July 2024](#)
- [GFN Jan-March 2024](#)
- [GFN Oct-Dec 2024](#)

Stepping Forward - Farmer Insights from GFN Voices

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=403



2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



590,211 impressions
4.9% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

September

Food Security for Peace

October

World Food Day



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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Nominations Are Being Accepted for 2025 Cohort

Do you know a farmer who embraces technology and the application of science within agriculture, who understands the value it brings in meeting the challenges of food security driven by a growing population and climate change? If yes, please [complete this form](#) to submit that nomination for the next Roundtable and Communication training which will be held in Costa Rica in June 2025 (date to be confirmed).



Pictured left to right, are Jean Kaahwa Rwamukaga (Uganda), Willy Kirwa (Kenya), Maness Nkhata (Malawi), Jorge Lopez Menendez (Argentina/Africa), Lucy Wangari (Kenya), Amadou Sidibe (Mali), Mary Boote (USA), Moses Tia (Ghana), Sibusiso Goodwill Gule (Eswatini), Unknown Woman, Unknown Man, Dave Okech (Kenya), and Felix Kili (Kenya).

Launching LongTerm Projects: Showcasing Africa Agriculture Accelerator Pathway

GFN farmers are driven by the goal of long-term profitability. This means learning about each other's businesses, forming partnerships between government, research, and the private sector, and embracing technological and managerial innovations. By growing resources, solutions, and adopting new technologies and business arrangements, GFN farmers can boost profitability, enhance resource efficiency, and share valuable insights more effectively.

To achieve that goal, the projects each farmer committed to completing at the Global Farmer Network pilot **Africa Agriculture Accelerator Pathway**, August 12-14, 2024 are listed below.

- Jean Kaahwa: Adopt greenhouse gas measurement technology
- Dave Okech: Organize fish farmers conference in Kisumu
- Maness Nkhata: Collaborate with Jean Kaahwa on cassava flour value addition
- Moses Tia: Contact fish-feed farm trials to test his bio-based fish food
- Lucy Kaari: Learn more about beef cattle production
- Stella Thomas: Research hydroponic seed production
- Jorge Menendez: Build a no-till network in Africa
- Emma Naluyima: Research alternate protein

- Olawale Rotimi: Encourage connections with his network to support projects in the Accelerator Pathway
- Felix Kili: Host a field day
- Willy Kirwa: Train young farmers
- Lucy Wangari: Improve IT within her business

The GFN will showcase this farmer-led process and subsequent results as a case study during the Africa Food Systems Forum in fall 2025.

Champion Agriculture with GFN's Weekly Tips

Our new series is packed with tips to help you champion agriculture. The GFN's mission is to amplify the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security. These tips, distributed in September are to empower you to join us in amplifying the farmer's voice. You'll find tips like these in each GFN weekly email. If you'd like to join our weekly email list, contact Jane Schroeder, jschroeder@globalfarmernetwork.org.

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Storytelling is powerful!

How will you share your own experiences in a way to connect with your audience?

Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Be creative!

Find innovative ways to get your message across.

Consider your strengths and don't hesitate to use your unique talents.

Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Access to technology not only improves farm profitability. It supports farmers' efforts to be more sustainable.

Share your sustainability success story to amplify this message.

Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Access to technology not only improves farm profitability. It supports farmers' efforts to be more sustainable.

Share your sustainability success story to amplify this message.

Global Farmer Network



Boote Addresses UN General Assembly & New York Climate Week

Mary Boote, USA had the honor of speaking at a side-event hosted by the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU) during the UN General Assembly and New York Climate Week. The event, titled "**The Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils: Improving food security at the Nexus of Climate, Land Degradation, and Biodiversity**", highlighted critical global challenges.

Mary shared compelling examples of how global farmers are tackling these issues head-on, improving food security while simultaneously protecting the environment and preserving biodiversity. Her insights provided valuable perspectives on the ground-level efforts that GFN members are making and how they make a significant impact in addressing these challenges.



Video from SPG Coalition, GAP Report Launch Features GFN Members

The Coalition on Sustainable Productivity Growth for Food Security and Resource Conservation (SPG Coalition) was launched in 2021 at the United Nation's Food Systems Summit. [New video](#) from the SPG Coalition features Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe; Pilo Giraud, Argentina, Marcus Holtkoetter, Germany and Mary Boote, USA.

The video addresses agricultural productivity growth, a powerful engine for alleviating food insecurity and poverty while also conserving natural resources and mitigating and adapting to climate change. The major drivers are technological and managerial innovation, innovative nature-based solutions, new institutional infrastructures, and the dissemination of innovative approaches and best practices.

The SPG Coalition aims to accelerate the transition to more sustainable food systems through productivity growth that optimizes agricultural sustainability across social, economic, and environmental dimensions.

Webinars Examine Ag Topics, Next Webinar to be Held November 14, 2024

More than 1,400 farmers in 60 countries have connected with GFN members through the GFN's 12 webinars held during the 2024 series.

The next GFN webinar, **Who is the GFN?**, will be held November 14. Watch your email for the link to register, or contact Mary Boote at mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.

Click [this link](#) to view any of past webinars, which covered: Access to Technology; Agrotourism; Elections (NI, In, Mx) / (GB, Rw, Uy); Market Access; No-till (introduction) / (implementation); No-till and Livestock; Rock and Roll Farming; Seed Technology; Water (Mali, UAE) / (Portugal, USA).



GFN Members to Speak at WFP



The October 29-31, 2024 Borlaug Dialogue will bring together global leaders, experts, and innovators to discuss critical issues in food security and agricultural development. This year's event promises engaging sessions and networking opportunities with key figures in the field, including GFN members Judith de Vor, Netherlands; Stella Thomas, Nigeria; Shuichi Tokumoto, Japan.

Tokumoto's inspiring "[I am a Farmer](#)" music will be featured, which Shuichi will perform live.

The World Food Prize Foundation will recognize Mary Boote, USA as a member of their inaugural Top Agrifood Pioneers (TAP) List. This prestigious recognition honors outstanding contributions to transforming food systems worldwide.

Saldanha Receipt of Sustainable Farm Award

Luiz Saldanha, Brazil is recognized for 20 years of work and dedication by Globl Rural Magazine. He brought back to life land that was degraded from extended sugar cane production. With much hard work he and his team have not only brought the land back to life – literally – but also are protecting its biodiversity while producing global award-winning Capricornio coffee.

Addressing Current, Critical Issues

GFN Members Active in September

- **Maria Virginia Solis**, Argentina and **Mateusz Ciasnocha** will be delivering a training for farmers about conservation agriculture in Italy.
- Members **Jose Luis Gonzalez**, Colombia and **Marcus Holtkötter** will take part in a panel during the launch of the 2024 GAP Report, to share their perspective about the adoption of productivity-enhancing tools.
- From the Philippines, **Mariel Corpuz** and **AD Alvarez** were featured in the magazine [Farmers Speak: Stories from the Fields](#), a collaboration between the Philippine Agriculture and Fisheries Biotechnology Program of the Department of Agriculture and ISAAA Inc.
- **Jack Froese**, Canada was interviewed at CJOB to talk about this year's harvest and rail stoppages.
- **Manny Piñol**, Philippines is supporting the "Arms to Farms" program to help former 'rebels' and out-of-school youth get involved in agriculture. Activities include sorghum and soybean production, and raising goats, sheep, and chickens.
- Writing for [Science for Sustainable Agriculture](#), former Copa Cogeca chair and National Farmers Union VP **Paul Temple**, UK questions UK government ban on neonics and rejection of GM herbicide tolerant oilseed rape, arguing the consequences of avoiding the technologies are worse for biodiversity, food security and the economy.
- **Malwinder Malhi**, India received the Agri Visionary Excellence Award, Australia-India Hub by ICBITS 2024.
- **Celestino Zanella**, Brazil, attended the Brazilian cotton congress in Fortaleza, Brazil, and then the ITMF Annual Conference and IAF Fashion Convention in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- **Pacifique Nshimiyimana**, Rwanda and **Adowarim Lugu**, Ghana, met at the African Food System Forum in Kigali.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the 279 GFN members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.

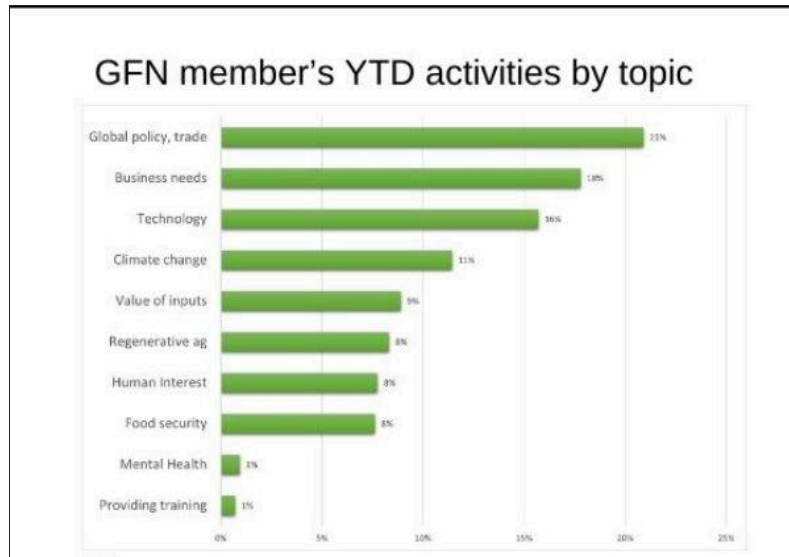


During 2024 to date, 29% of the GFN farmer-membership, from the countries highlighted in the map above, are making their voices heard in 218+ different media sources.

Those countries are: **Argentina**, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Mexico, Netherlands, **New Zealand**, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, Tanzania, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.

Stepping Forward - Farmer Insights from GFN Voices

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024. n=450



2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



590,211 impressions
4.9% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

October

World Food Day

November

Farmers Leading the Way on Climate Change – Carbon capture & storage



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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GFN Agripreneur Accelerator: Empowering African Networks



The GFN is showcasing the promising results of our Agripreneur Accelerator program, which launched this past August in Nairobi, Kenya. Designed to enhance profitability through sustainable ag-tech adoption, this initiative is already making a significant impact.

One participant, **Sibusiso Goodwill Gule** from Eswatini, exemplifies the start of the program's impact. At the event, Sibusiso's engagement with peers laid the groundwork for sustained growth and innovation in his operations as the founder and director of Goodwill's Farm Fresh, a horticulture production company.

After attending, Sibusiso initiated a partnership with **Olawale Rotimi**, a Nigerian agripreneur who also was at the program, to start a fruit and vegetable shop alongside his coffee business, and a potential collaboration with **Amadou Sidibe**, from Mali, on

greenhouse technology.

By sharing data and personal experiences, the GFN's Agripreneur Accelerator program is fostering a culture of innovation and growth. For more updates and achievements, contact GFN Africa Regional Lead, Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe rmashumba@globalfarmernetwork.org.

Nominations Are Being Accepted for 2025 Cohort

Do you know a farmer who embraces technology and the application of science within agriculture, who understands the value it brings in meeting the challenges of food security driven by a growing population and climate change? If yes, please [complete this form](#) to submit that nomination for the next Roundtable and Communication training which will be held in Costa Rica in June 2025.

2nd Roundtable of African Farmers - Pontifical Academy of Science

Taking part in the October 8th roundtable organized by the Global Farmer Network (GFN), the World Farmers' Organization (WFO), the Bayer food company, the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) and IICA were **GFN farmers** sharing their voices: **Dave Okech**, Kenya; **Stella Thomas**, Nigeria; **Amadou Sidibe**, Mali; **Elisha Lewanika**, Zambia; **Grace Bwogi**, Uganda; **Motlatsi Musi**, South Africa; and GFN CEO **Mary Boote**.

The farmers participating in this 2nd Roundtable were invited to bring and discuss their own

perspectives and experiences on Regenerative Agriculture – farmers were asked: **Which practices and technologies** are enabling farmers to implement regenerative agriculture? **Which barriers** hinder the availability, accessibility, and adoption of those solutions at scale in the region? **Which actions** are needed to overcome those barriers? [This report summarizes comments made by participants.](#)



Pictured left to right, are GFN members speaking on the first panel of the 2nd Roundtable of African Farmers - Pontifical Academy of Science event, Stella Thomas (Nigeria), Elisha Lewanika (Zambia), Motlatsi Musi (South Africa), Grace Bwogi (Uganda), Amadou Sidibe (Mali).

Boost Your Impact with Tips to Amplify Your Voice

As you navigate the ever-evolving landscape of agriculture, staying informed and adaptable is crucial. Here are the tips shared in October to encourage you to amplify the farmers' voice.

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Highlight the environmental benefits:

Emphasize how sustainable practices protect soil, water, and biodiversity.

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Reducing trade barriers can benefit farmers and consumers alike.

When advocating for market access, emphasize the importance of trade certainty.

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Access to technology and markets is essential for building sustainable agricultural businesses.

Advocate for strong trade deals and increased access to innovations that enhance profitability and resilience.

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Farmers are at the forefront of ensuring a well nourished future.

Use your personal story to emphasize your role in advancing food security.



Two GFN Members Present at Regenerative Ag Conference

Speaking at the B2B Regenerative AG conference in Mexico City on October 3-4 were GFN members from Mexico: **Gina Gutierrez** and **Rene Lopez**. Rene shared the farmers' perspective on a panel discussion and later participated in a roundtable, while Gina gave a presentation focusing on livestock's role in regenerative ag.



Boote Represents GFN and IAFN / PSM in Rome

Mary Boote, USA represented the GFN and IAFN / PSM (International AgriFood Network / Private Sector Mechanism) at events supporting World Food Day. Here, she is pictured with IICA Director General Manuel Otero.

In her presentation, Mary shared powerful quotes from GFN members, emphasizing the importance of listening to farmers. Their insights and practical knowledge are essential for policy-making and innovation.



Serving as Chair of IAFN / PSM. Mary met with Paul Kiernan, Global Coordinator for HandInHand Invest Forum, Office of the Chief Economist, FAO (pictured here).



Tokumoto Gives Powerful Performance at WFP Laureate Ceremony

Shuichi Tokumoto, Japan was a highlight of the WFP as he gave a live performance of "I Am a Farmer" at the World Food Prize Laureate Ceremony. Also during the ceremony, Shuichi was presented the Global Farmer Network Kleckner Global Farm Leader award by Scott Kohne, BASF and Mary Boote, GFN. Watch the ceremony [here](#).

To recognize and honor Shuichi as the recipient, CroLife International co-hosted a reception with the GFN on October 29.

Malhi Addresses International Conference

Malwinder Singh Malhi, India delivered keynote presentations at the International Conference on Business Innovation Technology Startups at San Jose State University, CA.

Dr. Malhi focused on the challenges small farmers face in adopting new technologies and the importance of sustainable practices. He emphasized the critical role of AI, stating, "Empowering farmers with the right tools and knowledge is essential for the future of agriculture. Leveraging AI technology in agriculture can significantly improve livelihoods and contribute to a more sustainable future for all."



Tackling Today's Most Pressing Challenges

GFN Members Active in October

- **AD Alvarez**, Philippines hosted farmers to view trial plots demonstrating FAW management practices, showing what needs to be done versus what the village farmers are used to doing. He also had the opportunity to speak at Farm to Table: a look into biotech crops' role to food security.
- **Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle**, India participated on a webinar about soils for food security and climate.
- **Mateusz Ciasnocha**, Poland and **Maria Virginia Solis**, Argentina hosted a workshop in Warsaw ahead of COP29.
- **Bill Couser**, USA talked to grade school students about the GFN and his learnings of traveling the world to meet GFN members.
- **Jana Gäbert**, Germany was selected to receive the Women in Ag Award by DLG.
- **Malwinder Malhi**, India gave a presentation about automation and robotics in agriculture. He celebrated World Food Day attending the launch of a preemergence herbicide for wheat. He also gave a TV interview on Beriaan De Ber, a Punjabi agriculture show based in California. This show, which is widely viewed by global farmers, garnered close to 8.5K views and 200 likes over the past month.

- **Ganesh Nanote**, India received farmers on his farm to discuss soil health and sustainable Bt cotton production.
- **Paul Temple**, UK represented the GFN in Rome at CFS (Committee for Food Security).
- **Judith de Vor**, Netherlands attended the FAO's World Food Forum and Global Family Farming Forum.
- **Saustine Luzanzu**, Tanzania attended the 2024 Climate Justice Camp, where young people from over 100 countries gather to discuss climate change in their communities and worldwide.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the 279 GFN members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



Bhadsavle Shares Breakthrough in Rice Cultivation

Chandrashekhar Bhadsavle, India is an advocate for the Saguna Rice Technique (SRT), which is conservation agriculture using zero tillage. A part of the Saguna Rural Foundation, he shares news that could change the rice cultivation narrative.

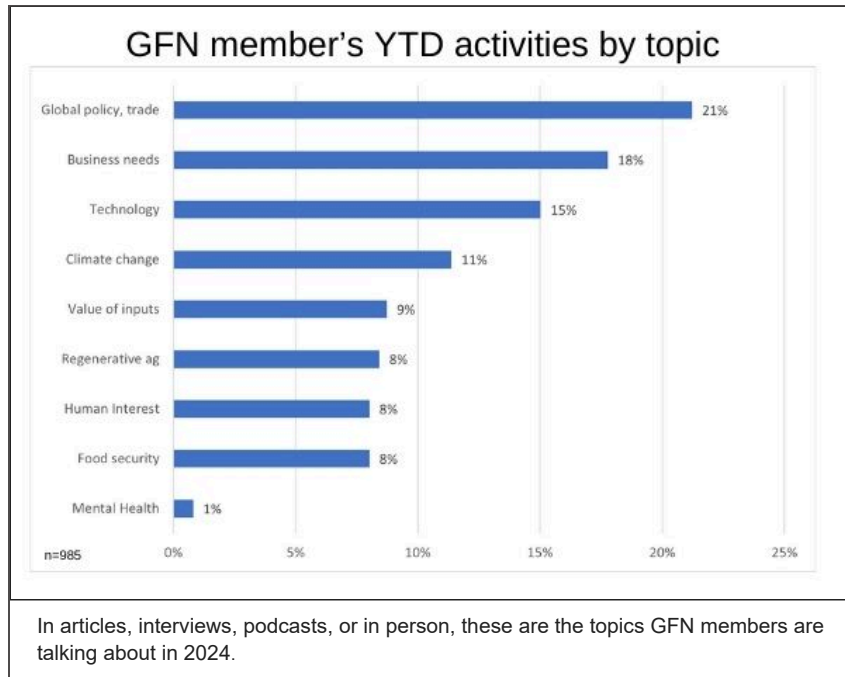
Traditionally criticized for high water consumption and methane emissions, rice can now be cultivated with almost zero methane emissions, reducing water use by half and lowering production costs using SRT. [Learn more in this newsletter.](#)



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November

Farmers Leading the Way on Climate Change – Carbon capture & storage

December

Farming for the Future



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Global Farmer Network®

NOVEMBER 2024 RESULTS

Connecting farmers and amplifying our voices



Collaborating for Change: Amadou Sidibe

Amadou Sidibe, a farmer and agricultural leader from Mali, recently participated in the Global Farmer Network (GFN) Africa Agripreneur Accelerator meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya this past August. A proud member of the GFN, Amadou leveraged this opportunity to forge partnerships and exchange ideas with fellow agricultural innovators from across the continent. The meeting marked a significant step in his mission to empower smallholder farmers and advance sustainable agriculture in Mali.

A Platform for Collaboration

As a member of the GFN, Amadou has consistently championed the importance of collaboration in solving the challenges facing agriculture. The GFN Africa Agripreneur Accelerator meeting provided him with a vibrant platform to meet other changemakers, exchange ideas, and explore innovative solutions tailored to Africa's unique farming ecosystems. "For me, being part of the Global Farmer Network means having a voice in global agricultural conversations and building connections that transcend borders," says Amadou. "The GFN Africa Agripreneur Accelerator meeting was a testament to the power of those connections."

Key Partnerships and Outcomes

Amadou's participation in the meeting resulted in several strategic collaborations designed to benefit smallholder farmers in Mali. These partnerships aim to bring technological innovations, improved farming techniques, and expanded market access to rural communities:

1. **Bringing Smart Irrigation to Mali:** Collaborating with Kenyan innovators, Amadou secured access to climate-smart irrigation solutions that will help Malian farmers optimize water usage. These systems are especially crucial in combating drought and ensuring consistent yields despite changing climatic conditions.
2. **Introducing Resilient Seed Varieties:** Amadou formed a partnership with East African seed companies to facilitate the introduction of drought-resistant and high-yield crop varieties in Mali. These seeds are designed to improve productivity while adapting to the region's environmental challenges.
3. **Farmer Training Programs:** Recognizing the importance of skills development, Amadou initiated plans for joint training programs with agricultural extension experts from Ethiopia and Uganda. These training sessions will focus on regenerative agriculture, value addition, and effective post-harvest management techniques.
4. **Market Linkages Through AfCFTA:** Discussions with representatives from the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) opened doors for Malian farmers to access regional markets. Amadou plans to use these connections to improve market access for smallholders, ensuring fair pricing and reduced waste.

Leveraging the GFN for Greater Impact

As a GFN member, Amadou sees his role as not only a representative for Malian farmers but also a bridge for global agricultural collaboration. GFN's platform has enabled him to share the stories and challenges of smallholder farmers in Mali with a global audience while learning from the experiences of farmers worldwide. "My GFN membership has been instrumental in amplifying my work and connecting me to resources and networks that I wouldn't have accessed otherwise," Amadou reflects. "The GFN Africa Agripreneur Accelerator program is strengthening those connections and showed me what we can achieve when we unite for a common goal."

By sharing data and personal experiences, the GFN Africa Agripreneur Accelerator program is fostering a culture of innovation and growth. For more updates and achievements, contact GFN Africa Regional Lead, Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe rmashumba@globalfarmernetwork.org.

VIDEO - Learn about the GFN! Curious about who makes up the Global Farmer Network? Interested in learning more about the world-wide impact of the GFN on agriculture? [Click here](#) to learn more about this farmer-led movement for change and how members are amplifying their farmer's voices in promoting trade and technology.

Nominate A Farmer Today! Do you know a farmer who would make a great GFN member? Please [complete this form](#) to nominate outstanding farmers for the next Roundtable and Communication training to be held in Costa Rica in June 2025.



Gabert Recognized by DLG in Hanover, Germany

Jana Gabert, Germany, was recognized as a "Woman of Influence in Ag" by the DLG (German Agricultural Society) and Women in Ag Magazine. The category was 'agriculture'. **Bev Flatt**, USA, attended the event and was nominated in the same category.



Celebrating Women in Agriculture: Jennie Schmidt at the "International Year of the Woman Farmer" Panel

Jennie Schmidt, known fondly as The Foodie Farmer from Maryland participated in a panel discussion "International Year of the Woman Farmer" (IYWF) at the US Ag Export Development Council. Jennie shared her insights alongside USDA Under Secretary Alexis Taylor. Under Secretary Taylor played a pivotal role in facilitating the UN Resolution for IYWF in 2026 and launching the Woman Farmer Roadshow. Jennie's involvement in the Woman Farmer Roadshow took her to Vietnam and Indonesia, where she shared her expertise and experiences.



Malhi Leads AI, Digital Technology / Marketing Training

Malwinder Malhi, India has begun work to present AI and digital technologies in agriculture / marketing training to young village level school government students in Punjab. Punjab, being a leading agricultural state in India, has the potential to become a model at the school level to help equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to address modern agricultural challenges. This training can cover various aspects, including the use of artificial intelligence (AI), IoT devices, drones, and data analytics to improve productivity, reduce costs, and make farming more sustainable.

This is just one example of the many important activities Malwinder is leading, receiving recognition for, or participating in, to advocate for the ag sector.

Boost Your Impact with Tips to Amplify Your Voice

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Advocacy Tip of the Week

Reducing trade barriers can benefit farmers and consumers alike.

When advocating for market access, emphasize the importance of trade certainty.

 Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Highlight the environmental benefits:

Emphasize how sustainable practices protect soil, water, and biodiversity.

 Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Everything communicates a message.

Be mindful of your surroundings, as well as what you wear, how you look and what you say.

 Global Farmer Network

Advocacy Tip of the Week

Be persistent. Advocacy often requires patience and determination.

(Just like the crops you just planted!)

 Global Farmer Network



Ag Policy Veteran Kellie Bray Joins GFN

The GFN is pleased to announce the appointment of Kellie Bray as Director of Partnerships. Kellie combines her perspective as a member of a multi-generational farm family in northwest Missouri with a distinguished career with CropLife America in Washington, D.C. Several GFN members met with her in D.C.: **Bill Couser**, GFN board member from Iowa, **Mary Boote**, GFN CEO, **Bray** and **Elly Sukup**, GFN Director of Programs.



Gutierrez Receives Recognition

Gina Gutierrez, Mexico, was recognized among other women for her role as a female livestock farmer at the International Animal Protein Symposium. Women not only actively participate in the production of animal protein, but also occupy leadership and management roles in various organizations and companies in the sector. Women awarded included veterinarians, university teachers, pharmaceutical representatives and politicians.

At the Third Lattech symposium: Towards sustainable dairy, projects that nourish our future, Gina presented "Basic aspects of dairy sustainability" to an audience of dairy farmers and industry partners.

Amplifying the Farmers' Voice

GFN Members Active in November

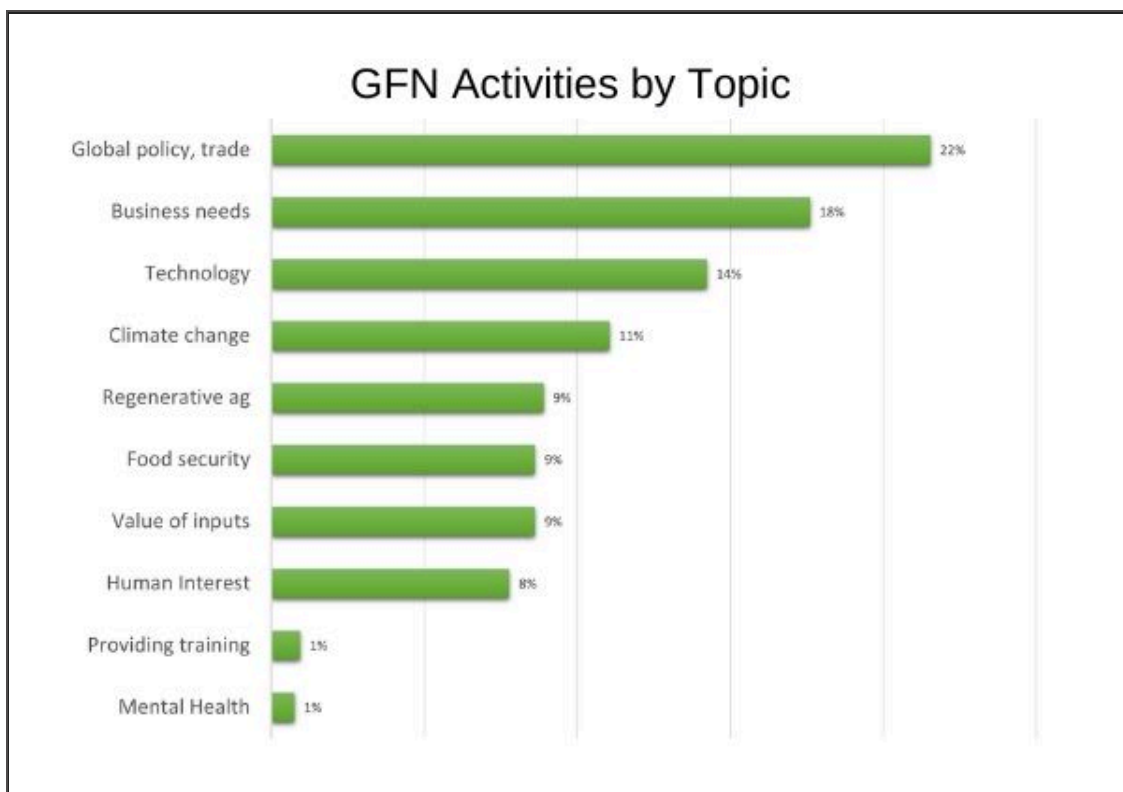
- **Bill Couser**, USA, had the opportunity to address FFA members.
- **Mitchell Hora**, USA, hosted a webinar on Global Collaboration for Sustainable Agriculture and **Mary Boote**, GFN CEO was a speaker.
- **Craige Mackenzie**, New Zealand, spent 10 days in Azerbaijan to talk about how to improve grain yields. His group included UN officials, researchers, scientists, farmers and local officials, and shared that there's potential to improve production, but still many challenges.
- **V. Ravichandran**, India, was recognized by the Tami Nadu Governor on his agricultural practices, creating awareness on technology and empowering small holder farmers.

To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the 279 GFN members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



During 2024 to date, 31% of the GFN farmer-membership, from the countries highlighted in the map above, are making their voices heard in 252+ different media sources.

Those countries are: **Argentina**, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Mexico, Netherlands, **New Zealand**, Nigeria, Pakistan, **Philippines**, Rwanda, Scotland, **South Africa**, Tanzania, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.



In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members are talking about in 2024.

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1,034,412 impressions
4.9% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

December

Farming for the Future

January 2025

GFN: Amplifying the farmers' voice for 25 years



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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GFN Unveils Exciting 2025 Plans for 25th Anniversary

To announce the exciting opportunities to celebrate our community, and this milestone, the GFN held a **special virtual reunion** in early December 2024.

Seventy-nine farmers, representing 32 countries were in attendance to share the value the GFN has brought them.

The 25th anniversary signature event was announced, along with virtual reunions:

- GFN member-farmers are invited to meet in South Africa during the first week of December 2025. The time together at "GFN Summit 2025-Empowering Farmers, the Journey Continues" will be used to reconnect, mobilize and re-energize for the next 25 years.
- Future virtual reunion dates were announced for GFN member-farmers: May 14, 2025; June 25 & 26, 2025; late November

To learn more about how **you can help the GFN celebrate its 25th anniversary**, or to learn more about the **December 2025 GFN members-only event** contact Mary Boote, CEO at mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org or Kellie Bray, Director of Partnerships at kbray@globalfarmernetwork.org.



Joining the Revolution Led by Dave Okech

Dave Okech, founder of Aquarech Limited, is transforming Kenya's aquaculture sector by empowering smallholder farmers through collaboration and innovation. His initiatives focus on sustainability, profitability, and climate-smart practices, driven by partnerships formed through the GFN Agripreneur Accelerator Program.

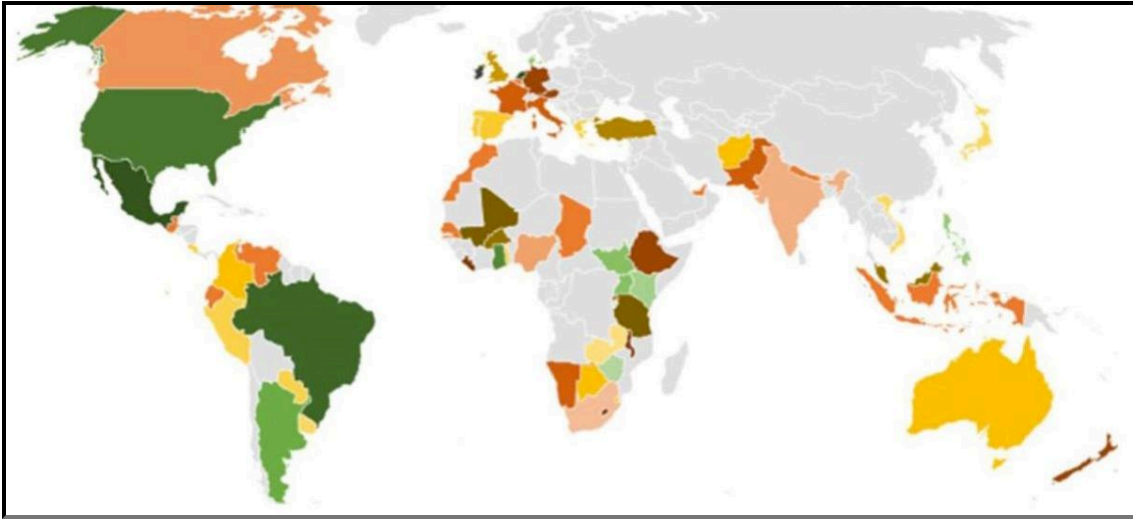
Dave is set to scale innovative, climate-smart aquaculture practices starting in 2025. In March 2025, Aquarech will host the [Aquaculture Blue Economy Innovation Conference](#), supported by the U.S. Embassy, to bring together 1,500 stakeholders. The event will promote eco-friendly practices, market linkages, and capacity building for farmers.



With WorldFish providing technical support, Aquarech is introducing durable, high-capacity HDPE cages that last 20 years and hold up to 60,000 fish, boosting productivity while reducing environmental impact. To overcome financial barriers, Aquarech has partnered with Equity Bank and TechnoServe to launch a \$450,000 blended financing program. Farmers can access affordable credit supported by Aquarech's buy-back system, ensuring year-round production.

Farmers also benefit from the Aquarech App and IoT-enabled water sensors, optimizing feeding and resource efficiency. The Fish Deli App connects consumers to fresh, locally produced fish. By 2025, Aquarech aims to train 5,000 farmers, onboard 500 into contract farming, and increase fish production by 4,500 metric tons, creating 2,000 jobs and raising farmer incomes by 40%. Visit abei.co.ke for more information.

By sharing data and personal experiences, the GFN Africa Agripreneur Accelerator program is fostering a culture of innovation and growth. Stay connected to track Dave's progress, or for more updates and achievements, contact GFN Africa Regional Lead, Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe mashumba@globalfarmernetwork.org.



Over 1,300 Farmers Benefit from GFN Live Webinar Series

Late in 2023, the GFN team gathered to brainstorm a new 2024 initiative: a series of GFN-hosted webinars. The goal was to create a consistent, valuable experience for both presenters and attendees, all while supporting the GFN mission of amplifying the farmers' voice.

Working with farmer-member subject matter experts, 13 webinars were delivered reaching 1,585 people from 61 countries. Knowledge sharing on a variety of timely issues was key for the free, live webinars. Recorded for on-going viewing, the GFN webinar series can be found [here](#). Topics:

- No-till (introduction)
- No-till (implementation)
- Market Access
- Water (Mali, UAE)
- Water (Portugal, USA)
- No-till and Livestock
- Agrotourism
- Seed Technology
- Access to Technology
- Elections (NI, In, Mx)
- Elections (GB, Rw, Uy)
- Rock and Roll Farming
- Who is the GFN?

The 2024 GFN webinar series delivered education to farmers in the countries highlighted above.



Key 2024 Highlights

As we look back at 2024, we're also looking forward to 2025 – the 25th anniversary of the Global Farmer Network! What a milestone – a quarter century of bringing together outstanding farmers around the world to tell the story of the importance of trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security. Here is a list of 2024 key highlights:

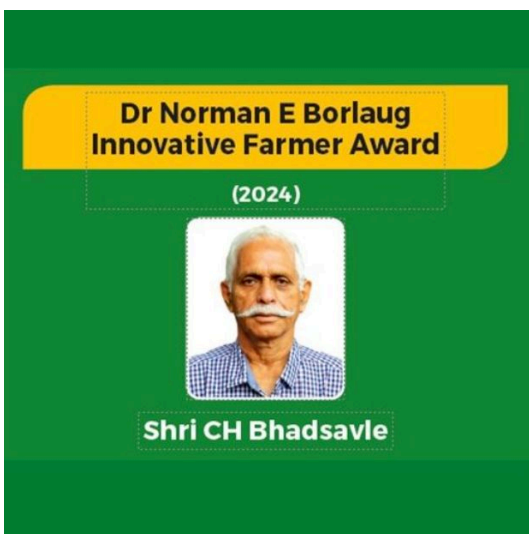
- Strategic review of GFN was completed as well as a road map for the next three years
- Three farmers were highlighted during the World Food Prize events in October as panel discussion presenters and in a special performance during the Laureate ceremony.
- In partnership with the World Wildlife Fund, GFN co-led a group focused on how best to catalyze action that would empower and enable producers and policymakers to collaborate 1) to protect land, 2) to support the restoration of degraded land, and 3) to encourage sustainable land management that promotes and supports production of nutritious food. The final product was captured on a white paper, [*The Vision for Adaptive Crops and Soils*](#).
- Global Farmer Network members gathered in Iowa on the side of the Farm Progress Show 2024 to reconnect and build relationships.
- Two programs focused on agriculture in Africa with knowledge transfer:
 - Africa Farmers Roundtable hosted by the Pontifical Academy of Life Sciences
 - Africa Agripreneur Accelerator Program in Nairobi hosted by GFN.



Sailer Receives Iowa Farm Bureau Distinguished Ag Award

Larry Sailer, USA is recognized as an Iowa Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service to Agriculture (DSA) Award recipient. Through his leadership and outreach, Sailer continues to bridge the gap between farmers and their communities, ensuring accurate and transparent communication about modern agriculture.

Bill Northey, USA, was recognized posthumously for his work and dedication to agriculture.



Bhadsavle Receives TAAS Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award

Shekhar Bhadsvale, India was awarded the first Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Innovative Farmer Award in India by the Trustees of the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS). Shekhar has been a true leader in India, as a farmer and ag researcher, also as a leader of men. His personal goal: To bring dignity to agriculture and those who farm. His research and test plots in regenerative ag, specifically dry and direct-seeded rice in India and SRT technique, has been supported by the World Bank, FAO and more.



Mashumba is the Voice of the Farmer at UPOV

Ruramiso Mashumba, Zimbabwe represented the voice of farmers at the UPOV Executive Program on Plant Variety Protection for the Development of Agriculture

2025 Roundtable Planning Underway



The Global Farmer Network Roundtable & Communication Training program, hosted by GFN, gathers farmers from around the world to discuss current issues in food, feed, fiber and fuel production. It also includes a communication training component. The next program is scheduled to be held June 8-14, 2025 in Costa Rica on the IICA campus, and includes virtual sessions prior to meeting in person.

The planning of event details is underway. In early February, the selection committee is set to meet to review all farmer-nominations for the 2025 cohort. Selected nominees will be personally contacted by GFN staff.

Amplifying the Farmers' Voice

GFN Members Active in December

- **Dr Malwinder Singh Malhi**, India, helped launch a global initiative for the Future AI (Artificial Intelligence) Literacy project at Punjab Agricultural University. He emphasized the global relevance of AI literacy, as it helped in empowering communities with AI skills which were critical for sustainable development and global competitiveness.
- **Dan Kelley**, USA interviewed by Guardian in support of his op-ed article, [Modern Agriculture and RFK Jr.'s Vision: A Farmer's Insight](#).
- **Ravichandran Vanchinathan**, India, spoke at the Global Symposium on Integrated Weed Management on water conservation in rice cultivation and herbicide tolerant rice.
- **Shuichi Tokumoto**, Japan, traveled to Kenya to take part in a government program about rice production.
- **Craige Mackenzie**, New Zealand, gave a presentation on Climate Smart Agriculture in Pakistan. Topics covered were growing wheat and barley, nutrients and fertility, irrigation, and post-harvest management.
- **Maribel Corpuz**, Philippines, participated on a panel at the Global Symposium on Integrated Weed Management, focusing on the future of weed management.
- **David Danio Jr**, Philippines, has gained 100,000 subscribers on his YouTube educational channel.
- **Rosalie Ellasus**, Philippines, attended a GM crops symposium in Japan, where she met GFN member **Shuichi Tokumoto**, Japan. GFN fellow from Indonesia, **Faucik Lestari** was also in attendance.
- **Aaron Moore**, UAE, took part in a consultant meeting at the World Agriculture Forum in Dubai.

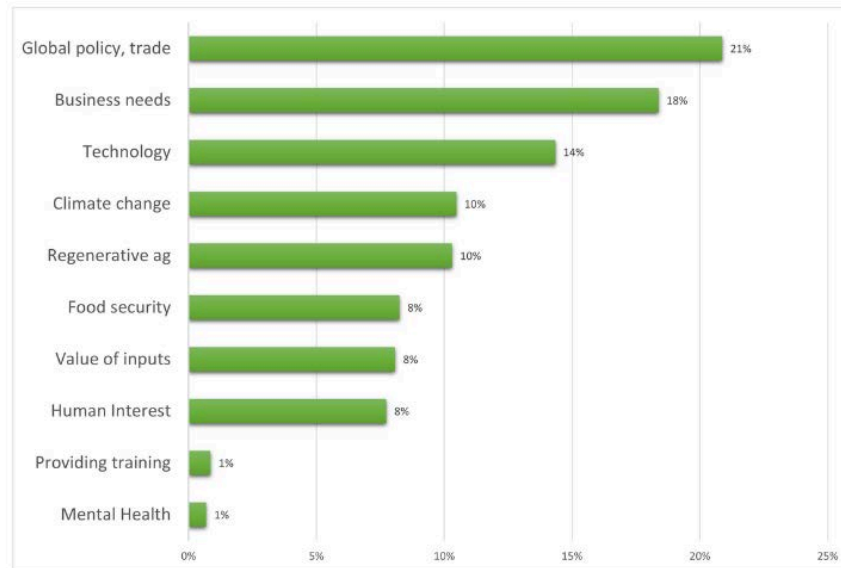
To connect with and learn directly from these or any of the 279 GFN members, contact Mary Boote, mboote@globalfarmernetwork.org.



During 2024, 33% of the GFN farmer-membership, from the countries highlighted in the map above, made their voices heard in 266+ different media sources.

Those countries are: **Argentina**, **Australia**, Brazil, **Canada**, Germany, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, **Kenya**, Mexico, Netherlands, **New Zealand**, Nigeria, Pakistan, **Philippines**, Rwanda, Scotland, **South Africa**, Tanzania, UAE, **UK**, Ukraine, **USA**, Zimbabwe. Bold indicates countries where members have been most active.

GFN member's YTD activities by topic



n=1,164

In articles, interviews, podcasts, or in person, these are the topics GFN members talked about in 2024.

2024 Increasing visibility, awareness through social media

Our strong presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, TikTok, Podcasts and YouTube is focused on growing engagement with non-farmers and farmers alike. Here's what engagement looked like for published posts (year to date).



1,034,412 impressions
4.9% engagement rate

What are the next Global Farmer Network focus themes?

January 2025

GFN: Amplifying the farmers' voice for 25 years

February 2025

GFN: 25 years of Advocacy & Action

Learn about the GFN! Curious about who makes up the Global Farmer Network? Interested in learning about the world-wide impact of the GFN on agriculture? [Click here](#) to learn more about this farmer-led / farmer-driven movement for change, and how members are amplifying their farmer voices in promoting trade and technology.



The Global Farmer Network amplifies the farmers' voice in promoting trade, technology, sustainable farming, economic growth, and food security.

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