

Climate change and the food system



We can shift our global food system to one that has a low climate impact and provides healthy and nutritious food that's culturally appropriate for everyone. We need to put food systems at the heart of our response to climate change (along with actions in other sectors such as transportation, industry and urban centres, of course).

Food needs a clearer voice and understanding of its role in climate change and importantly more research is needed into solutions. Ways to do this at the moment include: changing to eating more plant-based foods, healthy calorie consumption, eliminating food loss and waste, reducing deforestation, improving crop yields, and farming practices that focus on soil health, biodiversity and water care.

Food and climate change

By 2050, we'll be relying on our planet to feed 9 billion people. Changing systems and behaviour today will be critical to creating a sustainable fu-

ture of food.

Climate change and food systems are inextricably linked. Food contributes to climate change through emissions from growing and production, with further impact in the transportation, distribution and disposal of food waste, while, in turn, climate change has its own impact on the way we can grow food, and therefore what we can eat.

Food for thought

It can feel overwhelming wondering where to start, and whether your actions will have any impact. But change starts by simply understanding where your food is coming from. With awareness, we begin to make better decisions, focusing on changing supply chains and consumption patterns.

Food at the heart of policy

Even slight climate changes can have large-scale consequences. Given our reliance on land, water

and climate to grow food, we need an urgent re-think on the way we produce, distribute and consume food worldwide.

We need a new approach

We believe food systems can turn climate change around. If you want to understand more about the part that sustainable agriculture and food systems play in creating a resilient future of food, check out these resources below which dive deeper into ways we can enact change.

We can help you

Climate change impacts for food businesses are different from other sectors. The complexity of supply chains, the lack of data for food products, and the nature of the systemic changes that are needed to land use, transportation, energy, and water usage, along with food loss and waste, means that a different approach is needed. That's where Spira can help you.

What you can do

1. Understand your impact: measure what you make or consume
2. Reduce your impact: Work out how you can make changes
3. Consider offsetting
4. Take a food systems approach to this issue. That's where Spira can help you. Contact us for a one:one chat about your situation [or sign up to one of our food waste courses here.](#)

More information:

Households:

[Live Lightly](#)

Businesses:

[Create a Climate Action Plan](#)

[Toi Tu - Tools & Resources](#)

[Ekos - Investing in nature - carbon management](#)



Credit: D.Kaplan/Spira