CONSCIOUS FOOD SYSTEMS ALLIANCE

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Achievements Report 2026

Convened by:

UNDP

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ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

#1

A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FORMED, CONNECTING 900+ MEMBERS AND OVER 8000 SUPPORTERS

#2

A ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ACTIVE MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ESTABLISHED

#3

MEMBERS HAVE CONNECTED DEEPLY THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE IN-PERSON EXPERIENCES

#4

COFSA HAS IDENTIFIED 4 ENTRY POINTS AND EXPLORED THEM THROUGH COLLECTIVE INQUIRIES

#5

CONSCIOUS FOOD SYSTEMS ON THE GROUND: 6 INTERVENTIONS TESTED

#6

MORE THAN 300 MEMBERS EMPOWERED THROUGH OUR CONSCIOUS FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

#7

A NEW FIELD OF WORK AND NARRATIVE FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION POSITIONED

FOREWORD

Food is a fundamental part of our lives, nourishing our physical bodies, keeping us alive and healthy but also connecting us to each other, our cultures, and our planet. However, food also contributes to numerous social and environmental challenges. There are many efforts underway to transform our current food systems, but despite significant efforts, we are still far from achieving the food system we truly need: one that delivers environmental sustainability, equity and health.

During my three decades of working on food, Nature and development across the world, I came to recognize that the obstacles to transforming food systems run deep—they are embedded in our collective consciousness, in the very ways we think, act, and relate to one another. As it is our values that influence decisions which shape, structure and direct how we product, transact and consumer food. For too long, this inner dimension of our decision making has been a marginalized in the technical assistance we provide to support change, and addressing it has become ever more urgent.

It was from this recognition that the Conscious Food Systems Alliance (CoFSA) was born. Starting in late 2020 as an exploration of how to support the inner dimensions of food systems change, our journey led to the public launch of CoFSA in 2022. Since then, CoFSA has grown far beyond my expectations, emerging into a vibrant movement that continues to inspire me.

Our community is flourishing and now includes more than 800 members from all corners of the globe, and a marked increase in organizational partners who recognize the importance and urgency of this agenda. This growth signals that the integration of inner transformation is finally gaining the recognition it needs within the broader food systems movement. Within our Alliance, we find many sources of inspiration and hope in a challenging world.

We have connected members, organized immersive transformational events, provided conscious leadership training and much more to build this movement. One of the most significant milestones on this journey is the upcoming Global Conscious Food Systems Summit, hosted in partnership with the Royal Government of Bhutan in August–September 2026. This landmark gathering will advance a new paradigm for food systems transformation—one that recognizes the vital role of culture, values, spirituality, happiness and inner development in catalyzing systemic change and regeneration.

Our progress exceeds anything we could have imagined at the outset. CoFSA has sparked a movement where people find belonging, inspiration, and practical ideas to transform the way we work in food systems from within. The collective energy of our community, combined with a growing ecosystem of dedicated and visionary donors—including the Fetzer Institute, McKnight Foundation, Waverley Street Foundation, Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, A Team Foundation, Tianren Culture, the Swedish International Development Agency, and the Swiss Federal Ministry of Agriculture—has powered what many once thought impossible.

I also wish to recognize the outstanding CoFSA Secretariat who provide the backbone of the Alliance, under the inspiring leadership of Thomas Legrand: Charlotte Dufour, Noemi Altobelli, Laouratou Dia, Luz Elena Navarro Díaz, Abigail Stein, Jimena Gomez, and Ashwini Prabha. Their passion and commitment have turned our vision into impact.

As we look ahead, I am confident that together we will elevate CoFSA to even greater levels both in the scale and depth of our work. Together, as an Alliance, we demonstrate that more conscious food systems are possible, and indeed are thriving in many places, through the inspiring initiatives around the world that manifest these values. We thank you who have already been part of our journey and invite more to become part of this movement and help shape our world.

Thank you for being part of this movement.

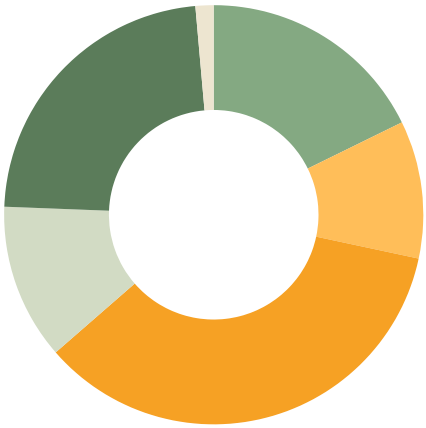
Andrew Bovarnick

Global Head, Food Systems, UNDP

A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FORMED, CONNECTING 900+ MEMBERS AND OVER 8000 SUPPORTERS

I.GEOGRAPHIC REACH

Breakdown of members across global regions

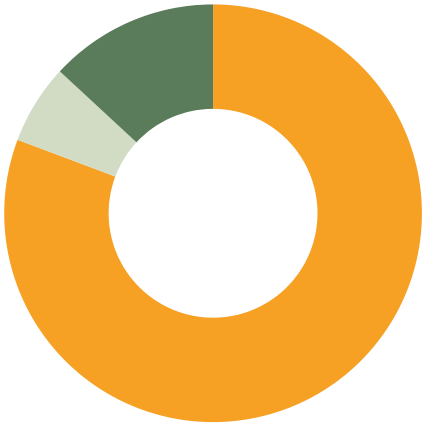


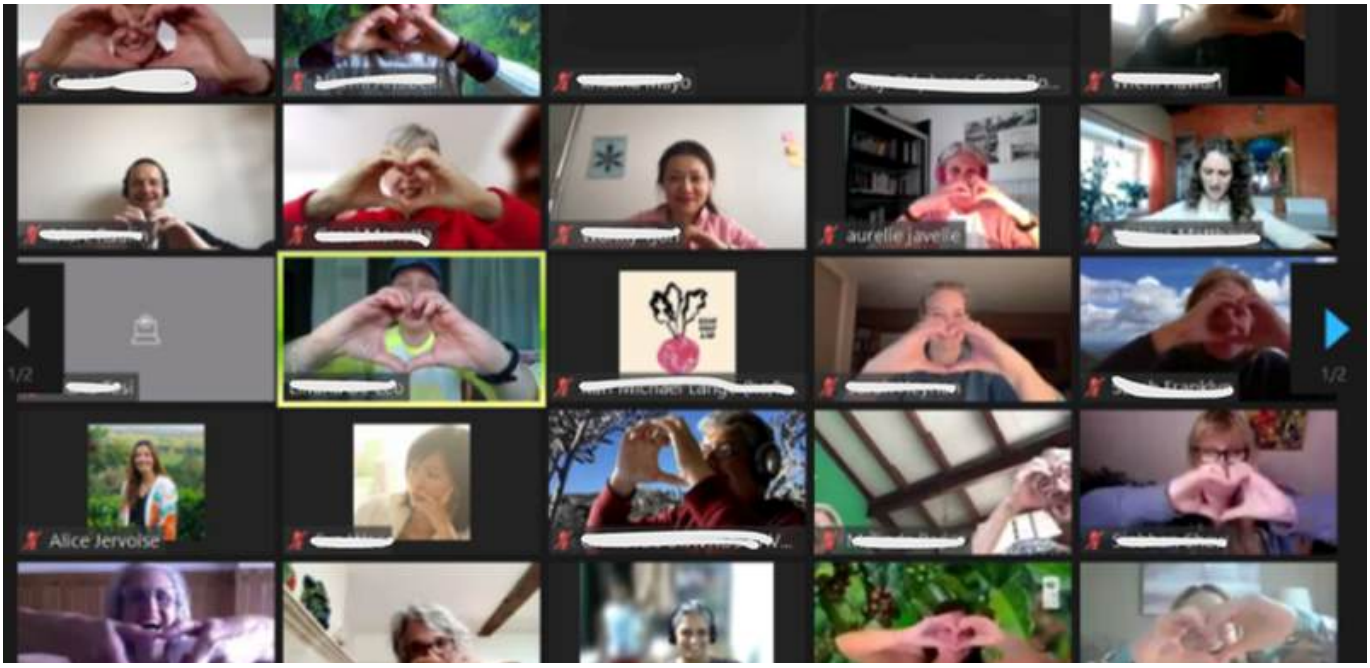
II.STAKEHOLDER TYPES

Distribution of active participants and beneficiaries by type

III.SECTORS

Breakdown of projects by specialized field and focus





BENEFITS OF JOINING COFSA

1 **COMMUNITY**
Networking and connection

2 **LEARNING**

3 **INNER DEVELOPMENT & INSPIRATION**

4 **CONFIDENCE & LEGITIMACY**

86%

of the respondents have been able to significantly integrate conscious practices in their work thanks to CoFSA (2026 Survey).

88%

feel that CoFSA is an effective platform to achieve both inner and outer impact in the food systems transformation journey.

A ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ACTIVE MEMBER ENGAGEMENT ESTABLISHED

MEMBERS ARE ABLE TO ENGAGE WITH OTHER MEMBERS IN THE COFSA COMMUNITY THROUGH:

- National Hubs: Members' hubs in Switzerland, France, Peru, UK, and Brazil give members chance to connect organically both in person and online.
- WhatsApp Groups: Platform for real-time discussions and community building.
- Coffee Chats: Monthly opportunities to connect with members around the world.
- Membership Directory: Connects members for collaboration and networking.

MEMBERS CAN STAY UP-TO-DATE, AND CONTRIBUTE TO, THE GROWING FIELD OF INNER CHANGE FOR FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH:

- Collaborative Circles: Member-led groups for connecting thematically.
- Newsletters: Highlights achievements, events, and valuable resources.
- Online Library of Resources: Central hub for best practices and research materials.
- Conscious Food AI chatbot: Launched by Service Space to facilitate access to information in any language and augment our collective intelligence.

> ***CoFSA has been a space of constant learning, peer support, and searching for new ways to transform our food systems.***

MEMBERS HAVE CONNECTED DEEPLY THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE IN-PERSON EXPERIENCES

APRIL 2023
UNITED KINGDOM
3-day in-person strategic retreat at Schumacher Collage, bringing 40 participants together.

APRIL 2024
FRANCE
7-day mindfulness, food, and farming retreat at Plum Village with Happy Farm, bringing together 32 members.

APRIL 2024
FRANCE
3-day Donors' Roundtable on Inner Change for a Just and Regenerative Future at Plum Village.

SEPTEMBER 2024
UNITED STATES
3-day retreat at the Garrison Institute for 70 food leaders on conscious food systems as a pathway to planetary health.

SEPTEMBER 2025
UNITED STATES
4-Day Donors' Roundtable on Inner Change for Food, Nature and Climate at the Fetzer Institute.

OCTOBER 2025
UNITED KINGDOM
5-day transformative retreat at 42 Acres with world-renowned spiritual teachers Satish Kumar and Gary Zukav, bringing together 38 CoFSA members from around the world.

AUGUST 2026
BHUTAN
In 2026, CoFSA will co-host, with the Royal Government of Bhutan, the first ever Global Conscious Food Systems Summit, in Bhutan 31 August – 5 September 2026.

COFSA HAS IDENTIFIED 4 ENTRY POINTS AND EXPLORED THEM THROUGH COLLECTIVE INQUIRIES

FARMING COMMUNITIES

POLICY MAKERS

DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONERS

CONSCIOUS CONSUMER AND VALUE NETWORKS

CoFSA promotes the use of Consciousness Practices to drive transformative changes in food systems based on the experience of its members

- Nature Connection
- Mindfulness
- Non-violent Communication
- Listening to the Land
- Cultivating Joy in Food Systems
- Conscious Facilitation

WATCH MORE

CONSCIOUS FOOD SYSTEMS ON THE GROUND: 6 INTERVENTIONS TESTED

The Communities of Wellbeing methodology has been developed to enable communities to reflect on and assess regenerative mindsets, values, and cultural dynamics as foundational dimensions of food system transformation.

Successfully tested in India and Colombia, and currently adapted for Mexico.

The Conscious Food Incubator established with 4 Conscious Food Interventions tested: a portfolio of interventions built with 170 proposals received, leading to 4 pilot interventions tested on 4 continents.

LEARN MORE

"Communities of Wellbeing" methodology developed and tested in India with Shramik Bharti.

MEET SOME OF OUR GRANTEES

WATCH MORE

MORE THAN 300 MEMBERS EMPOWERED THROUGH OUR CONSCIOUS FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The overall purpose of the programme is to develop a more holistic approach to addressing the food system crisis through contemplative practices and cultivation of inner capacities, following the Inner Development Goals (IDG) Framework with its 5 dimensions (being, thinking, relating, collaborating, and acting).

WATCH HERE

> ***The programme strengthened my ability to collaborate and relate with others.***

> ***The programme provided tools to use for integrating inner capacities into food systems work.***

CoFSA and its networks of local hubs have collaborated with Prescott College to develop a concept ready for testing for a globally distributed curriculum on local leadership for regenerative food systems.

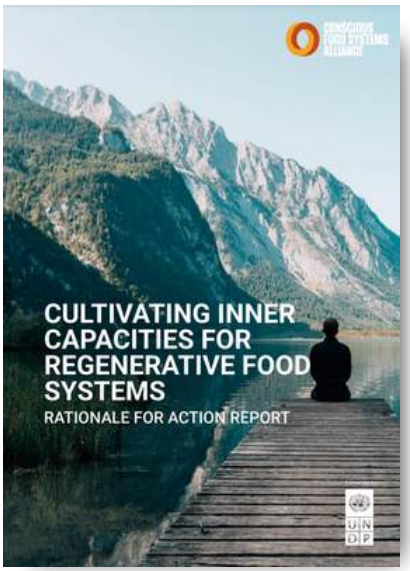
Since 2024, we have delivered three global cohorts and two pilot regional cohorts—one in Asia and one in Africa.

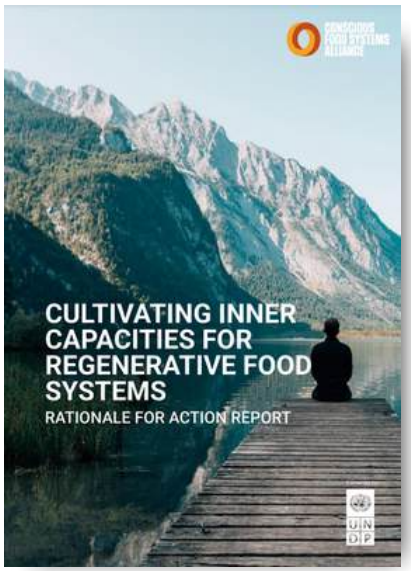
In 2026, the Conscious Food Systems Leadership Programme (CFSLP) is advancing its regionalization by training a cohort of facilitators. They will start leading regional programmes in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe & North America in different languages in 2027.

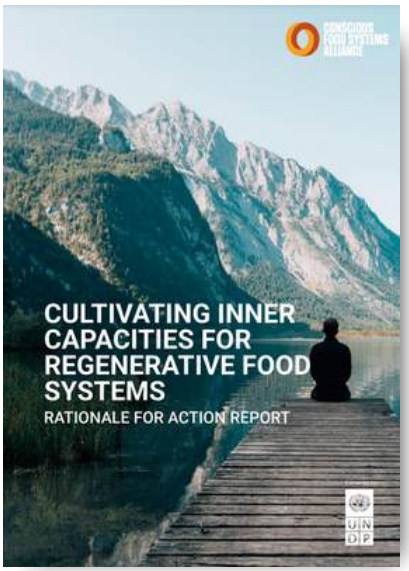
A NEW FIELD OF WORK AND NARRATIVE FOR FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION POSITIONED

COFSA LEVERAGES SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS TO CONNECT WITH OUR GLOBAL AUDIENCE.

THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPORTS, CASE STUDIES, BLOGS AND TOOOLKITS, COFSA HAS DEVELOPED A KNOWLEDGE BASE FOR THIS FIELD OF WORK.







READ ALL REPORTS

LIBRARY OF RESOURCES

challenges

A Special Issue on “Agroecology and Conscious Food Systems for Flourishing of People, Places, and Planet” in the peer-reviewed journal Challenges.

READ HERE

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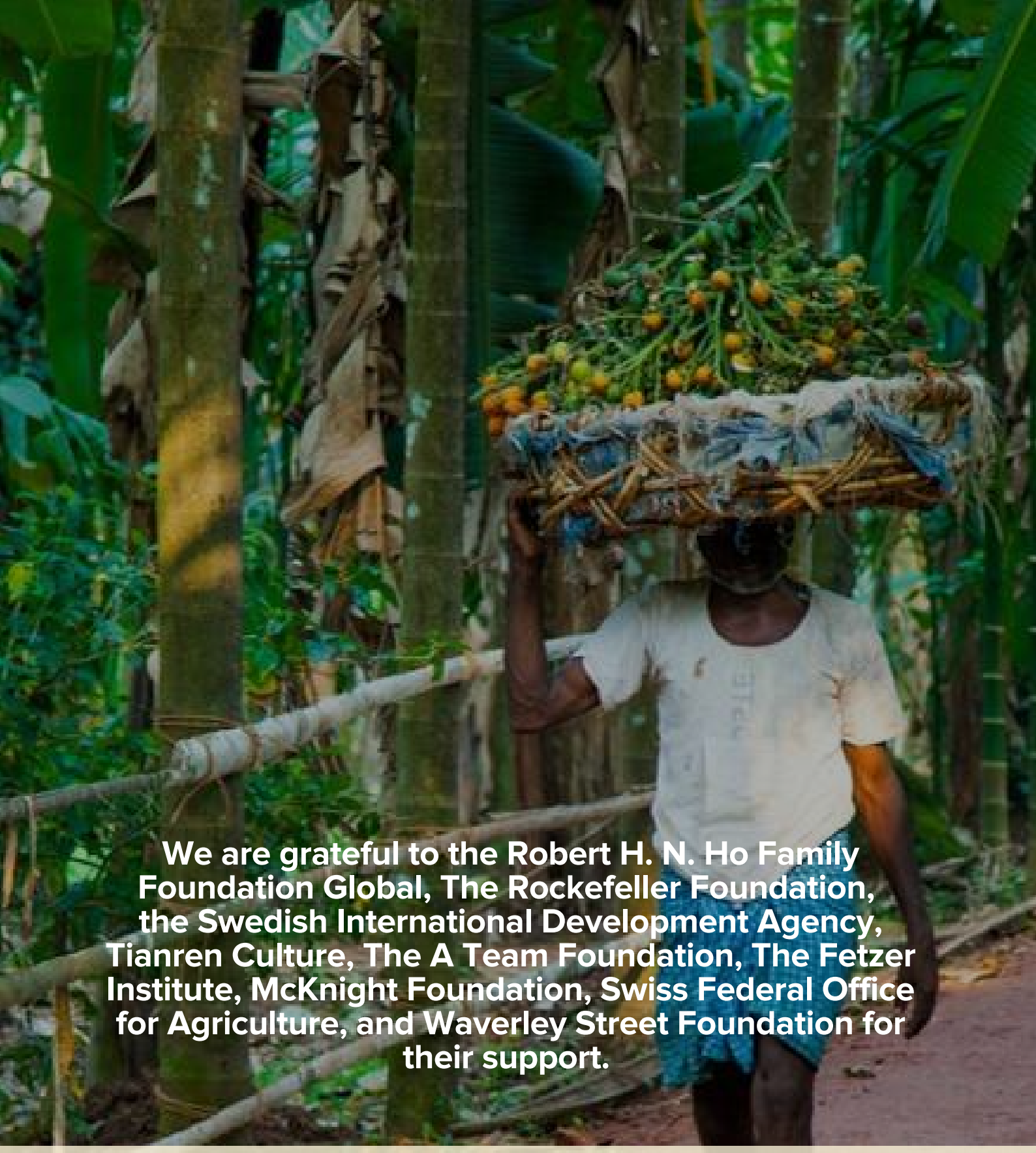
JOIN OUR MOVEMENT

JOIN

CoFSA members are part of a vibrant global community, where they can connect, learn, inspire each other, and collaborate to build conscious food systems.

Members can have priority access to trainings, events, and support from the secretariat, showcase their work and leverage CoFSA branding and networks.

" I feel at 'home' in CoFSA "



We are grateful to the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Global, The Rockefeller Foundation, the Swedish International Development Agency, Tianren Culture, The A Team Foundation, The Fetzer Institute, McKnight Foundation, Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture, and Waverley Street Foundation for their support.