



Underutilized Crops

What policymakers can do for expanding underutilized crops



Promote Awareness & Education

- Foster environmental education about underutilized plants among citizens.
- Highlight the biodiversity, nutritional, and health benefits of these foods.
- Strengthen nutritional education at all levels to encourage acceptance of new foods.



Strengthen Support for Crop Diversification

- Expand incentives for farmers to cultivate underutilized and climate-resilient crops.
- Adjust agricultural policies to balance support between major crops and diverse species.
- Provide technical guidance and financial tools to encourage sustainable farming practices



Enhance Market Integration & Consumer Access

- Facilitate the entry of underutilized foods into mainstream markets through targeted policies.
- Develop and promote certification schemes and recognizable labels to build consumer trust.
- Support initiatives that showcase new food products and recipes, increasing their visibility and acceptance.



Invest in Research & Innovation

- Prioritize funding for research on the benefits and cultivation methods of underutilized crops.
- Collaborate with scientific networks to identify resilient crop varieties and best practices.
- Use research findings to inform policy, ensuring a resilient and sustainable food system for the future