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London, 17 November

Global companies sign landmark Compact to strengthen resilience of farms and food supply chains

- After a year of extreme weather disrupted farms and food production, the initiative aims to support farmers and build more resilient food supply chains.
- 14 major companies and retailers have signed a landmark Compact at C-suite level, each aiming to embed more regenerative agriculture into how they operate.
- The Regen Compact aims to scale regenerative solutions that already work while putting farmers and nature at the centre of the food systems transition by equipping farmers with the support to make the necessary changes.

In 2026, heatwaves, drought and wildfires, as well as wet winters and floods have caused widespread disruption to agricultural landscapes, farmer livelihoods and food supply chains. These extreme conditions reflect a structural shift in climate highlighting the pressures facing our food system and how much our food security depends on nature.

Sustainable, nature-positive and regenerative solutions already exist, but they are not being adopted fast enough. The Regen Compact, a charitable initiative led by the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance, brings together major food sector actors to support farmers and build resilient farms, landscapes and supply chains.

Farmers are having to think about how they adapt and farm in a changing climate, and the Compact is designed to help unlock investment and reduce barriers to adoption.

Retailers and food companies sign the Regen Compact at C-suite level. The Compact aims to empower each signatory to build on and advance individual strategies that are nature-positive, economically sound and resilient at scale. These strategies could include providing long-term commercial certainty for farmers, or investing directly in farmer support.

The involvement of major food businesses and retailers reflects growing recognition that the long-term resilience of food supply chains depends on the resilience of farming landscapes. By demonstrating what works, the Compact aims to encourage others across the food sector to follow.

Marc Palahí, CEO of the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance said: *"The Nature-climate crisis has reached a tipping point that is putting food security at risk. The good news is that we have the knowledge to reverse the situation. It requires transforming our food systems around nature, adopting ecological principles as the basis for delivering economic outcomes. Regenerative agriculture is the greatest lever we have to restore harmony between humanity, nature and the environment, reconnecting human health to planetary health."*

Anna Manz, Chief Financial Officer of Nestlé said: *"Regenerative agriculture is critical to building more resilient supply chains for the future. At Nestlé, we have made it an integral*

part of our sourcing approach, working with farmers and partners to drive the transition at scale. Farmers cannot make this shift alone. We will continue to support them and, through the Regen Compact and other platforms, openly share our learnings to help encourage the adoption of regenerative practices more broadly."

Jon Banner, Executive Vice President and Global Chief Impact Officer at McDonald's said: *"We're proud to work alongside the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance and other industry leaders through the Regen Compact to help build a more resilient future for farmers, our food system and our customers around the world. The taste, quality and value customers expect from McDonald's starts on a farm or ranch, from the potatoes behind our World-Famous Fries to the beef in our Big Mac. We couldn't deliver the iconic, craveable menu items our fans know and love without the care and stewardship of farmers and ranchers. That's why we support investments that help make it possible for farmers to adopt economically resilient regenerative practices, to sustain the quality and availability of the food they produce – and that our customers enjoy every day."*

Tom Denyard, Managing Director, Waitrose said: *"If we want British food on our plates in years to come, our farms have to be able to cope with summers like this one, which gave the UK its smallest harvest on record. Regenerative farming is about looking after the soil, so it can keep feeding us through the good years and the bad. Farmers are leading the biggest change in how British food is grown for a generation, and backing them has never been a side project for us. We've done it for years, on our own farm and with every one of our UK farmers and growers, and we intend to go further. But this is a challenge for the whole food industry, and this landmark Compact brings us together behind them, with farmers and nature at its core."*

Simon Krämer, Executive Director of European Alliance for Regenerative Agriculture (EARA) said: *"The Regen Compact is a unique initiative in which corporations individually pledge to take more action for better food and farming. The CBA took due care that farmers' voices, needs and realities are central in the Compact. Farmers are leading the transformation, growing resilience and health back into our food systems, and must lead in spreading the innovations they create. We take part as advisers in the secretariat, but more importantly, because we firmly believe that without farming organisations at the table, ambitions will not be kept high enough and the outcome will fall short."*

About the Regen Compact

In joining, signatories of the Regen Compact look to: accelerate the adoption of regenerative agriculture according to the Compact's five principles; embed regenerative agriculture into how they operate, drawing on priority actions at a company level; and track progress in a way that is transparent and farmer-led.

The Compact also builds an ecosystem of support around farmers. It brings together farmers, experts, companies, retailers, financial institutions, NGOs and other actors to reduce barriers to adoption, strengthen farmer resilience, and attract investment into the regenerative transition.

List of Signatories

Bernardo Coca, Chief Sustainability Officer, **Agrolimen**

Thomas Udesen, Group Chief Commercial Officer, **Aldi Süd**

Nathalie Alquier, Global Chief Sustainability Officer, **Danone**

Tom Molnar, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, **Gail's**

Richard Bourns, Chief Commercial Officer, **Lidl GB**

Alex Freudmann, Managing Director, M&S Food, **Marks & Spencer**

Anna Turrell, Global Chief Sustainability Officer, Mars Snacking, on behalf of **Mars**

Charlie Angelakos, Global Vice President, External Affairs & Sustainability, **McCain Foods**

Jon Banner, Executive Vice President & Global Chief Impact Officer, **McDonald's**

Anna Manz, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, **Nestlé**

Dan Boulton, Chief Executive Officer, **Silver Fern Farms**

Tom Denyard, Managing Director, **Waitrose**

Edd Lees, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, **Wildfarmed**

Dr Fay Cooke, Chief Impact & Financial Officer, **Yeo Valley**

The principles of the Regen Compact

- **Be farmer-led and nature-based**. Recognise farmers as central to regenerating nature and nature as the keystone infrastructure for regenerative food production.
- **Be resilient**. Strengthen the capacity of landscapes, farmers, communities and businesses to withstand and adapt to climate-driven and other shocks and provide security of food supply.
- **Be holistic**. Take a systems approach, working in harmony with people, nature and climate, and drawing on ecological knowledge and biological processes.
- **Be context-specific**. Embrace diversity, adapting to local realities and contexts as an ongoing and evolving learning journey.
- **Be transparent and affordable**. Be a transparent, measurable and affordable process, grounded in continuous learning and data.

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About the Regen Compact

The Regen Compact is an initiative convened by the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance (CBA), a registered UK charity. The initiative grew from open conversations at the CBA's Roundtable on Regenerative Agri-Food Systems held at Windsor Castle in May 2026. We would like to thank and acknowledge all those who have helped shape and supported the development of the Compact, including Regenified, Silver Fern Farms, Galvanize and the Sustainable Food Trust.

The Regen Compact Secretariat is led by the CBA with the European Alliance for Regenerative Agriculture (EARA) as an adviser. EARA will independently benchmark the corporate standards and actions against the Compact's principles and pledges. EARA does not endorse or legitimise any of the corporates' programs and initiatives.

About the Circular Bioeconomy Alliance (CBA)

The Circular Bioeconomy Alliance was established by His Majesty King Charles III as The Prince of Wales, and is a registered charity. The CBA aims to accelerate the change to a nature-first economy that is climate neutral, inclusive and powers prosperity. We create impact at scale, using natural capital to build sustainable value chains which transform our land, food, health and industrial systems. Our approach combines a science-based framework, coalitions of expert partners, indigenous and local leaders, and a global network of 'Living Labs'.

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Why resilience matters now

2026 shows we have entered a new normal. Across Europe, wildfires had burnt more than 500,000 hectares by early August[1], whilst heat and drought have already cost the grain sector around €2 billion[2]. England recorded its driest July[3] since records began in 1836 and the UK is now heading for its smallest cereal and oilseed harvest on record, costing arable farmers an estimated £550 million[4] against March forecasts. Meanwhile, urea prices rose 80% between February and April[5], pushing fertiliser affordability for farmers worldwide to its weakest level since 2022.

What we have seen in 2026 is not a one-off event. A recent report by the European Investment Bank and Howden insurance group estimates that in the EU, the agricultural sector is losing about 28 billion euros per year due to the increasing impacts of climate change.[6]

Another example comes from a global scientific study published last year, which identified more than 15 food price rises due to extreme weather events driven by climate change since 2022.[7]

The challenges are structural. Food systems are a main cause of the nature and climate crises, whilst being among the sectors most exposed to the instability they help create.

Food systems generate around 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions[8] and are one of the strongest drivers of biodiversity loss[9].

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[1] https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-news-and-updates/worsening-drought-and-record-heat-grip-europe-fuelling-extraordinary-wildfires-and-extremely-low-2026-08-12_en

[2] https://eciu.net/media/press-releases/june-heatwave-knocks-2-billion-off-european-harvest-prospects-new-analysis

[3] https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-areas-in-england-declared-in-drought-after-record-dry-july

[4] https://eciu.net/media/press-releases/uk-harvest-even-worse-than-previously-thought-new-data

[5] https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/opendata/fertilizer-prices-surge-as-strait-of-hormuz-disruptions-tighten-

[6] fi-compass (2025). Insurance and Risk Management Tools for Agriculture in the EU. https://www.fi-compass.eu/library/market-analysis/insurance-and-risk-management-tools-agriculture-eu .

[7] Kotz M. et al (2025). Climate extremes, food price spikes, and their wider societal risks. https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ade45f

[8] https://www.fao.org/statistics/highlights-archive/highlights-detail/greenhouse-gas-emissions-from-agrifood-systems.-global--regional-and-country-trends--2001-2023/en

[9] https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/our-global-food-system-primary-driver-biodiversity-loss