



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE **WOMAN FARMER** 2026

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Photo Competition in association with
CAP Network Ireland**

Theme: Empowered women transforming agri-food systems

Background

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2026 the International Year of the Woman Farmer (IYWF 2026). The Year will spotlight the essential roles women play across agrifood systems, from production to trade, which are often unrecognised. Women farmers are central to food security, nutrition, and economic resilience. [FAO officially welcomed this adoption](#) and affirmed that the Year will raise awareness and promote actions to close the gender gaps and improve women's livelihoods worldwide.

The IYWF celebrates all women working in agrifood systems in different capacities across all segments of value chains. This includes farmers, producers, peasants, family and smallholder farmers, seasonal labourers, fishers, fish workers, beekeepers, pastoralists, foresters, processors, traders, traditional knowledge holders, women in agricultural sciences, formal and informal workers, and rural entrepreneurs. They encompass women in all their diversity, including young and older women, Indigenous Women and women in local communities, women with disabilities, refugee and displaced women, and others.

The Year recognises women farmers' work in both formal and informal work, recognising their contributions regardless of land ownership or employment status. It reflects the diverse and essential roles all women play in sustaining agrifood systems including through leadership, care, and domestic work, while supporting food security, contributing to economic prosperity, and improving nutrition and livelihoods for their families and communities.

Aligning the IYWF 2026 with the National Women in Agriculture Action Plan DAFM aims to utilise this photo competition, in association with CAP Network Ireland, to address the lack of appropriate female focussed imagery on communications to farmers and about farming and the wider agri-food sector in Ireland.



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine





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Application Form

(Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Name		
County		
Phone Number*		
Email Address		
Photo Caption*		
Categories* <i>(Choose <u>only one</u> per application. Select category most appropriate to your photo content.)</i>	Title	Tick box below
Farming	Female Faces of Farming	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forestry	Her Forest, Our Future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries/Aquaculture	Women Making Waves	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability	Green Queens	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural Diversification	Women Cultivating Change	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please confirm the following*

I am over 18 years of age

I confirm that I am not a professional photographer

I have the permission of person(s) in the photo to use this image

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Fully Completed application form(s) and associated photos should be emailed to:
info@capnetworkireland.eu. Please insert the word "COMPETITION" in the email subject line.

**All three confirmations are mandatory for your application to be considered eligible.*



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Terms and Conditions:

“DAFM” means Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

“IYWF2026” means International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026.

- You may enter multiple photos but must use a separate form for each.
- Selected photos will be credited to the photographer & must be their exclusive work.
- Photo subjects must be made aware the image may be used for promotional purposes by DAFM and CAP Network Ireland in connection with women in agriculture and IYWF 2026.
- Photos will be made publicly available via the CAP Network Ireland image library.
- No digitally altered or AI generated photos will be accepted.
- All photos must be in either (.jpg) or (.png) format with resolution >300 DPI.
- DAFM and CAP Network Ireland reserve the right to share your identity with a third party in the event of a copyright claim.
- Photos that contravene any rights, are offensive, abusive, indecent, defamatory, obscene or infringe the intellectual property rights will be ineligible.
- Category winners will receive **€200** each sponsored by DAFM. The overall winning photo will also feature on the CAP Network Ireland Women in Agriculture booklet.
- The evaluation committee will be selected by DAFM, and all decisions are final.
- DAFM may share your personal data with third parties in relation to the administration, evaluation and promotion of the photo competition.
- Entering the competition implies acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.
- Closing date for submission is **3pm Monday 16th February 2026.**

Disclaimer

By entering this competition, I hereby grant DAFM and CAP Network Ireland, a worldwide, irrevocable, perpetual, royalty free, sub-licensable, exclusive license to use, copy, distribute and display the photo submitted for the promotion of Women in Agriculture and IYWF 2026 and I hereby waive any moral rights subsisting in the photo.

DAFM and CAP Network Ireland reserve the right to publish your photo(s) and name in connection with the advertising or promotion of this competition.

The personal data provided on this form will be used for the purpose of processing this application and is subject to [DAFM's privacy statement](#) and [CAP Ireland privacy statement](#).



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