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North Africa: the climate emergency and family farming

This article examines recent international financial institution and national government policy in North Africa designed to address the climate emergency.

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A young local farmer harvests his wheat crop near Luxor, Egypt

Credit Image by Mina Guli - CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

This [article](#) examines recent international financial institution and national government

policy in North Africa intended to address the climate emergency. It focuses on the role of the World Bank and general policy trends since the 1970s. These policy trends fail to understand the continuing centrality of small-scale family farming to social reproduction and food production.

The article stresses the significance of historical patterns of underdevelopment, and the uneven incorporation of North Africa into global capitalism. An understanding of the *longue durée* is crucial in understanding why, and how, agrarian transformations have taken the form that they have, and why national sovereign projects and popular struggles offer an alternative strategy to counter imperialism and neo-colonialism. International financial institutions' preoccupation with policies of mitigation and adaptation to climate change fails to address how poverty is generated and reproduced.

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