OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 14 April 2021 09:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Toward Sustainable Food Systems: What game changing solutions to deal with climate change, protect critical ecosystems, reduce food loss and energy usage?
CONVENED BY	Convenor: Mr MUSABYIMANA Jean Claude, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI). Co-convenors: 1. Dr NDABAMENYE Telesphore, Technical Advisor, MINAGRI; 2. Ms NEZERWA Martine, Chief Digital Officer, MINAGRI
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/10124/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Rwanda

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

98

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

- [ ] 0-18
- [ ] 19-30
- [ ] 31-50
- [ ] 51-65
- [ ] 66-80
- [ ] 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

- [ ] Male
- [ ] Female
- [ ] Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

- [ ] Agriculture/crops
- [ ] Fish and aquaculture
- [ ] Livestock
- [ ] Agro-forestry
- [ ] Environment and ecology
- [ ] Trade and commerce
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Communication
- [ ] Food processing
- [ ] Food retail, markets
- [ ] Food industry
- [ ] Financial Services
- [ ] Health care
- [ ] Nutrition
- [ ] National or local government
- [ ] Utilities
- [ ] Industrial
- [ ] Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

- [ ] Small/medium enterprise/artisan
- [ ] Large national business
- [ ] Multi-national corporation
- [ ] Small-scale farmer
- [ ] Medium-scale farmer
- [ ] Large-scale farmer
- [ ] Local Non-Governmental Organization
- [ ] International Non-Governmental Organization
- [ ] Indigenous People
- [ ] Science and academia
- [ ] Workers and trade union
- [ ] Member of Parliament
- [ ] Local authority
- [ ] Government and national institution
- [ ] Regional economic community
- [ ] United Nations
- [ ] International financial institution
- [ ] Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
- [ ] Consumer group
- [ ] Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

All principles were respected

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

✓ **Yes** **No**

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

This dialogue was led by the Ministry of Environment and co-leaded by MINAGRI in collaboration with RDB and UNDP. The participants discussed on the dilemma of increasing food production without expanding agricultural land and threatening natural ecosystems (what are the gaps and challenges faced by country while trying to meet food demand and at the same time preserving the natural resources and biodiversity? what are the solutions and approaches to improve productivity while protecting the threatened ecosystems like wetlands? what policy or institutional frameworks and legislation are needed to boost production while protecting ecosystems?); sustainable management of food production systems to benefit both people and nature (what policies and/or institutional frameworks are needed to boost production while at the same time enhancing resilience to climate change? what types of incentives etc. are needed to support farmers integrate environmental and climate change considerations in farming? what areas along the agriculture value chain are innovations needed? what kind of innovations are needed?) and restoring the degraded ecosystems (what are the needed mechanisms, tools, and instruments - governance, financial, social, technical, etc.- to support implementation of restorative innovations? and how can gender and youth be integrated? how can research play a significant role in restoring and rehabilitating degraded ecosystems and food production systems? what nature based solutions can be adopted or up scaled to restore and rehabilitate degraded systems in Rwanda?

ACTION TRACKS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
✓	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

	Finance	✓	Policy
✓	Innovation	✓	Data & Evidence
	Human rights		Governance
	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		✓	Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

Topic 1. Increase food production without expanding agricultural land and threatening natural ecosystems
Existing challenge within Food Systems:
• Population pressure / Urbanization expansion that are overtaking agricultural land;
• Soil degradation due to overexploitation and agricultural malpractices
• Inappropriate knowledge on use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides that are causing soil pollution, water pollution and impact on pollinators;
• Non availability of sufficient Organic manure;
• Shifting of Natural Agro Ecological Zones due to the commerce/market crops domination;
Limited availability of quality and diverse seed supply;
Game changing solutions
• Fast-track the implementation of the Land Use and Development Master plan 2050 and ensure its enforcement to protect and efficiently utilize agriculture land.
• Promote agro-systems at local level that utilize ecosystem-based approaches and maximize production on small land (e.g. micro-agriculture, urban agriculture, and landless agriculture).
• Investment in research in order to facilitate farmers to obtain quality seeds of the crops most suited to their farming systems, conditions and needs;

Topic 2. Sustainable management of food production systems to benefit both people and nature
Existing Challenges with food systems:
• Food systems do not go beyond agricultural production and do not include all aspects in the value chain from production to consumption. It does not also include nutritional value of food.
• The role of the circular economy is not fully considered when analyzing food systems
• Limited coordination of efforts as well as consultations in the food system institutional framework.
• Lack of tangible data to monitor food systems, including monitoring of beneficiaries and awareness raising on available services along the value chain.
• Gap in digital data management and sharing and integrating data along the value chain.
• Limited Research and Development and knowledge sharing on enhancing nature-positive agriculture.
• Insufficient subsidy programmes on building short-term resilience for smallholder farmers
• Limited technologies to improve yield while reducing GHGs and land degradation
• Limited use of labour-saving technologies along the value chain in the long-term. development.
• Inadequate coordination of actors along the value chain
Game changing solutions
• Explore opportunities to adopt circular economy into the food systems value chain
• Promote the use of technology/innovations that improve yield while reducing GHGs and land degradation
• Research in recycling waste from agricultural markets into organic fertilizers through various technologies such as vermicomposting
• Enhance inter-ministerial coordination among different sector players to determine the trade-offs between agriculture and environment and strengthen policy coherence/implementation
• Effective management of digital data and sharing and to integrate data along the value chain.
• Promotion, recovery and reuse of organic waste to restore soil fertility to promote recovery and reuse of both organic waste and wastewater in order to restore and maintain soil fertility.
• Increase composting to 100% of households involved in agriculture production by 2030.
• Proper management of inorganic fertilizers to contribute to reduction of GHG emissions

Restore and rehabilitate degraded systems for sustainable food production and ecosystem services
Existing Challenges:
• Unsustainable food production (e.g. from expansion and intensification of agriculture) is a major driver of ecosystem degradation and often comes at a cost to ecosystem integrity (e.g. negative impacts on biodiversity & ecosystem services)
• There is a huge disconnect between research institutions and the needs of the farmers on ground
• Lack of knowledge on how intercropping and zero tillage can contribute to soil conservation and enhance biodiversity
• Poor knowledge on the safe use of inorganic fertilizers leads to the degradation of biodiversity and ecosystems
• Lack of funds for innovative initiatives that aim at improving ecosystems and biodiversity
• Limited awareness of the local community on the importance of maintaining ecosystems and biodiversity
Game changing solutions
• Scale up initiatives to restore/rehabilitate degraded ecosystems and promote indigenous species in agroforestry and landscape restoration in high-risk areas.
• Biodiversity protection (biodiversity awareness trainings at the community levels)
• Promote inclusive consultation processes and participatory assessments on land degradation for the design of effective ecosystem restoration strategies through soils, crops, livestock and wildlife management interventions

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

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