OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM



DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 16 April 2021 14:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Bites of Transfoodmation - Dispute
CONVENED BY	Ludovica Donati, Bites of Transfoodmation project coordinator
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/12315/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	No borders

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

27

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

13 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

1 **Nutrition**

7 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial 1

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?

The organizing team has selected a group of young and motivated individuals already (or ready to be) projected into the realm of food systems and provided them with a safe space to discuss, openly and creatively, the way forward for a more sustainable and resilient future. As such, both the organizing team and the participants understand the need to act with urgency and are committed, either personally or professionally, to contribute to the vision, objectives and outcomes of the Food Systems Summit. The Bites of Transfoodmation (BoT) participants aim to be agents of change and wish to contribute to the outcome of the FSS. David Nabarro's intervention during the first BoT virtual meeting clearly inspired them and helped them better to understand the process behind the Summit. In the organization of the Dialogue, the BoT organizing team made sure to embrace membrace might be about the process behind the summit and different countries, backgrounds and sectors, such as the process of the visit of t including, but not limited to civil society, government, academia and private sector. It must be pointed out, however, that the Dialogue has been organized and carried out with a focus on the youth and on the Middle Eastern - Mediterranean region geographically speaking. The facilitators selected were all part of the organizing team and had been briefed with attention to ensure the creation of a safe space conducive for dialogues based on respect and trust. A number of 'principles' for discussion were shared with the participants at the beginning of each session to foster this sense of inclusivity, mutual respect and trust. These included the need to complement the work of others, build on what the person before has said, challenge only when you have an alternative to propose, and finally seek compromise.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Dialogue re-grouped and focused on all the topics that were addressed during the previous five workshops, with a major focus on narratives and advocacy; knowledge, connectivity and digitalization; habitats and proximity; diversity of food systems; renewed traditions and empowered culture; affordability and true value of food. The Dialogue is part of a broader set of workshops and events organized by the Bites of Transfoodmation team that aim to take into account and discuss different aspects of the food systems, thus recognizing their complexity. Previous dialogues and workshops have focused on the topics of sustainable consumption and on the future of production, transformation and distribution. Some time has been dedicated to the unifying power of potentially divisive concepts. The final aim is to achieve a political intention of the group, in the form of a Manifesto and Lines of Action, which will take a holistic and systemic approach to food systems transformation. Yet, as the very name Bites of Transfoodmation suggests, the idea is to propose some 'bites' of change which are coherent to and respect the vision of the group of young change-makers and the themes identified by the group as key. The principles of inclusivity, respect and trust were reflected in the design and roll-out of the Dialogue and have been an essential feature of the entire Bites of Transfoodmation process. The participants have not only been included in all stages of the project in a transparent and inclusive way but have been its very center. A real sense of trust has been created along the way, and this could be witnessed during the Dialogue as the participants felt they could express their views freely and openly, even when these did not necessarily reflect the views held by others.

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

Thanks to the fact that there is a team working exclusively on the Bites of Transfoodmation project, a lot of information and knowledge sharing is able to take place both among the participants, and between the participants and the organizing team all this based on a high degree of mutual trust. The organizing team has ensured that various different avenues and spaces for exchange are created, both during and in the build-up to the Dialogues. This has definitely contributed to building trust as well as to keeping the momentum, engagement and commitment of the participants high. Our advice to other Convenors would be to make sure, if possible, that there is a strong point of contact between the Dialogue participants and the Convenors, as well as a high level of trust. This allows for participant's feedback and continued interaction after the workshops and Dialogue so that the ideas can be further refined, and knowledge further shared. Furthermore, it seems to be a valuable approach to choose participants with a diverse background in order to permit exchange about different realities, while working towards compromise and unifying elements.

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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

The Bites of Transfoodmation "Dispute", a typical Swiss format of confronting ideas, was the first time the group presented the Manifesto to a broad, non specialist audience. Comparted to the earlier so-called "Dispute Talks", organized in collaboration with Istituto Svizzero, the current event was much denser and aimed at an active discussion/interaction between the panelists. Panel 1: During the first panel about imagining a new society through the perspective of food, the panelists talked about habitats, proximity and new traditions. All agreed that the production chains must become more transparent so that rural and urban areas can experience proximity and can exchange knowledge more easily. Panel 2: During the second panel on digitalization, connectivity and diversity of food systems, all four panelists agreed along the entire panel: Indeed, the participants emphasized that access to education and information is a necessary tool to reform the system and that digitalization is the vehicle for change. Panel 3: During the third panel about the real value of food, its accessibility and diversification in food systems, the BoT panelists met with experts ready to challenge the Manifesto. In fact, the discussion was very active, especially about the implementation of a transformation in the food systems, while the idea of change, as well as the objectives that the BoT group wants to achieve in the Manifesto (true value, diversity, collaboration, affordability, accessibility), were shared by all. Final debate: During the final debate, the four representatives - Ute Klamert (WFP Assistant Executive Director for Partnerships & Governance), Gilbert Houngbo (President of IFAD), Christian Frutiger (Assistant Director General and Head of Global Cooperation at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation), Giorgio Marrapodi (Director General for Development Cooperation at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) - participated as representatives of the institutions, but expressed mainly their personal views. They stressed the importance of reforming the food system and the decisive role played by youth and social networks. Assessment: The Bites of Transfoodmation Dispute was a success in terms of the number of people who participated and the interaction between panelists; in fact, participants were able to present ideas and react to each other's opinions, preventing long and off-topic interventions. In addition, the panelists from international organizations were able to filter out institutional opinions and participated in the debate as individuals with personal opinions. In the end, the discussion and more specifically the Manifesto proved to be very relevant to the institutional discussions within the Food Systems Summit.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The main points touched in the Bites of Transfoodmation Dispute were the six paragraphs of the Bites of Transfoodmation Manifesto about renewed traditions, new habits and empowered culture; habitats and urban-rural proximity; digitalization, connectivity, diversification of food systems; narratives and advocacy; true cost and true value of food, accessibility and affordability of food; as well as diversity of food systems.

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

	Finance		Policy
/	Innovation	1	Data & Evidence
	Human rights	1	Governance
	Women & Youth Empowerment	1	Trade-offs
		1	Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings of the first panel were that there is a profound disconnection between producers and consumers, especially in cities, due to an invisible wall dividing the urban from the rural area and making it impossible to have true awareness of the origins and related production systems of food. Moreover, the panel highlighted the importance of supporting hybrid and cross-sectoral professions, as well as investing in education as a very first starting point, to break this

wall and ensure social proximity.

The main findings of the second panel were the recognition of digital technologies as the vehicle of change brought by the people, as well as the importance of filtering good information from bad one, the same way as we select good quality food from bad quality one. Furthermore, the panel found that social media represents an important tool, especially for younger generations to advocate for better and more inclusive

and sustainable narratives.

In the third panel, the main findings were that everyone has (theoretically) the right to food and that there is a strong need to make the food system more inclusive for women, the youth, minorities, the poor, indigenous people, refugees, etc. In addition to this, it was recognized during the whole panel that a true cost approach is needed to change the system and make it more sustainable, by internalizing positive and negative externalities in the prices of food, in terms of environmental, social, economic, health and animal welfare implications. In this perspective, the character of food as a potential public good was

Some interesting points were raised by the panelists of the final Debate. Indeed, not only food was recognized as a Human Right in terms of accessibility and affordability, but also the work behind the production of food and the related waste and loss was highlighted. Moreover, the important role of the youth and future generations in enhancing the needed change to reach sustainable food systems was stressed again, especially in relation to spreading the mantra on social media. For this reason, the panelists underlined the importance of including younger generations in decision-making processes. Other main findings of the panel were related to a fair distribution of resources, revenues and end products through sustainable production and social inclusiveness, as well as the recognition of health-related problems in our food system, in terms of undernutrition, malnutrition, over-nutrition and obesity.

ACTION TRACKS

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

	Finance		Policy
1	Innovation	/	Data & Evidence
/	Human rights	1	Governance
1	Women & Youth Empowerment	1	Trade-offs
		1	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/4

The first panel dealing with the redefinition of new societies through the lens of food, as well as the reconnection with food traditions and rural and urban areas, was moderated by Cassiano Luminati and hosted the two young changemakers Fortesa Softa and Amin Emadi, and the two challengers Sara Roversi and Christian Frutiger.

The main point of the BoT representatives was that the reconnection between rural and urban areas is a fundamental aspect in order to give food its real value. They stressed the importance to reconnect with food traditions, retouch cultural values, invest on social capital, connect the food we eat with its environment, conceptualize new ways of planning territories and use the urban areas as connectors to build a more dense and interconnected system. Moreover, the BoT representatives cited the Manifesto and referred to the work of the group which emphasized the need for a new bottom-up approach to build renewed societies where reciprocity among humans and their natural environment will be the starting point. Indeed, transparency and trust in the food chain should be improved and supported by normative work in a more coherent way. They also highlighted the importance of using the principle of subsidiarity to solve problems in the closest possible way. Finally, they underlined the great importance of education.

The reactions of the two external speakers were interesting, as they underlined and shared the important message of the Bites of Transfoodmation community. Indeed, they felt inspired and considered that rethinking our societies through a food perspective is a key aspect. Sara Roversi stated that food should not be seen as a commodity, food it is much more than that, it is care and sharing. They all mentioned that we have lost the real value of food and that education can lay a considerable role in recovering from this situation. It has been also said that a food system is like a living organism where everything is interconnected and it works well only if everything else is in harmony. Christian Frutiger has also underlined the importance of the reciprocity concept between people and their national states are from different generations, healtgrounds.

To conclude, the first panel was a very constructive discussion among speakers from different generations, backgrounds and experiences, showing that a unified vision is possible to achieve. Indeed, the only points that were stressed a bit more from the challengers than from the BoT representatives was the fact that it is important not to see a real wall between the rural and urban areas, actually we are closer than we believe, and that we have to understand that we can't treat food-related issues the same way like climate change because of their higher complexity.

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

Finance		Policy
Innovation		Data & Evidence
Human rights	1	Governance
Women & Youth Empowerment	1	Trade-offs
	/	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/4

The second panel dealing with digitalization, connectivity, and diversification in food systems, as well as narratives and advocacy, was moderated by Marina Helm and hosted the two young changemakers Eugenia Alfine and Giacomo Molteni, and the two challengers Mirja Michalscheck and Francesco Holecz.

The main points of the BoT representatives was that digitalization is an important vehicle for change: they suggested that by increasing access to connectivity and technology, inequalities can be reduced and people can be made more aware of what they are actually consuming. Indeed, information and knowledge should be better accessible, especially for young people. Moreover, the two changemakers highlighted the important responsibility everyone has to share positive, diverse and Moreover, the two changemakers highlighted the important responsibility everyone has to share positive, diverse and inclusive narratives, because it is thanks to the sharing and repetition of narratives, that the mantra eventually influences reality. In addition, these narratives should focus on what we gain through a change, instead of what we lose (share over shout), and they should lead to advocacy. Through social media, people are able to share the well-articulated narratives and advocate for concrete aligned actions. However, to do so and to be successful, the incentives on social media should change so that the true values, diversity and inclusion are part of our everyday feed.

The reactions of the two external speakers were amazing, as they underlined the important message of the Bites of Transfoodmation community. Indeed, they felt inspired and considered that equal access to digitalization, technology and connectivity is a crucial goal to ensure sustainable future food systems. However, despite equal access, they highlighted the importance of filtering good information from had information (the way we distinguish good quality food from had quality

importance of filtering good information from bad information (the way we distinguish good quality food from bad quality food). Mirja Michalscheck and Francesco Holecz also confirmed that technology is only a vehicle of change, since people are the ones ensuring change; data and artificial intelligence just facilitate the process. Finally, they concluded their interventions by suggesting that there is a need for a legal framework regarding technology, so that the whole society can operate through these rules: the idea behind it is to make sure that responsabilities do not only lay on the consumer's side, but also on the authorities'.

To conclude, the second panel was a very nice discussion among speakers from different generations, backgrounds and experiences, showing that a unified vision is possible to achieve. Indeed, the only point that was stressed a bit more from the challengers than from the BoT representatives was the fact that it is important to always base every decision and choice on reliable data, in the sense that data alone are not enough to enhance change.

ACTION TRACKS

1	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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- Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
 - Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
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	Finance		Policy
1	Innovation	1	Data & Evidence
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	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		1	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/4

The third panel about the true value and affordability of food, as well as the diversity of food systems, was moderated by Marylaure Crettaz and welcomed the two BoT representatives Sofia Cereghetti and Iyad Alqaisi as well as two external challengers Jonathan Normand and Maximo Torero.

The main requests of the young changemakers were that diversity should be considered as a unifying factor along the entire chain of future food systems, in the sense that a dense network of deeply connected small and different realities leads to more resilience and better collaboration. Secondly, the group requested that the true value of food should always be included through the internalization of positive and negative externalities in terms of environmental, social, and economic consequences, health, and animal welfare. Thirdly, Sofia and Iyad demanded that food should be affordable for all and personalized nutrition should be part of the solution, so that everyone has access to healthy and nutritious food (right to food), by respecting cultural needs and traditions. Moreover, the young changemakers highlighted the importance of connecting modern practices with the original roots, as a way to embrace small-holder realities and change the system. The reactions of the two external speakers were firstly coherent with the requests of the BoT community, indeed the true cost approach was presented as a solution to the current problems of food systems from their perspective as well, the idea being the integration of local ecosystems in the true cost approach. However, afterwards, the discussion got livelier and the challengers started questioning the changemakers' ideas. Indeed, they considered that the current food market does neither permit a true cost approach from the consumer's side, as the willingness to pay is linked to uncertainty about the processes of the whole food chain, nor from the producer's side, since the externalities cannot be taken into account due to the risk of creating financial damages. Moreover, the challengers considered that, even though conceptually there is the right to food for everyone, there is a difficulty of applying the characteristics of a public good to food. Finally, even though the approach differed from the one proposed by the young changemakers, the experts agreed on the importance of changing the whole system to make it more sustainable and inclusive.

In conclusion, one can say that the BoT representatives and the experts really had a lively discussion that challenged both sides. This dispute about true value and affordability of food and diversity of food systems often encountered some points of divergence, such as the difficulty of scaling-up small-holder realities to supply the 55% of people living in urban areas, the contradiction of food being a Human Right in theoretical and practical terms, and the divergence in choosing the appropriate approach to tackle current food systems.

ACTION TRACKS

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	Finance		Policy
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1	Human rights	1	Governance
	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		1	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/4

The final debate was moderated Alessa Perotti (BoT), and hosted the four high-level speakers Ute Klamert (WFP), Gilbert Houngbo (IFAD), Christian Frutiger (SDC), Giorgio Marrapodi (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Ute Klamert stressed the importance of addressing accessibility and affordability when it comes to people and their relation to food (food as a Human Right), and of reducing the environmental stress our planet is facing. Ute Klamert also appreciated the terms "new traditions" and "new habits" presented in the Manifesto and suggested that youth, the future generations, have the power to really change the world: for example, she mentioned that by changing their diets to vegetarian, in the last decade the youth was able to influence the food market dynamics. Moreover, she considered that young people, who are very intuitive with social media, could strengthen the advocacy part to change the food system, similarly, to what climate change activists have done with "Fridays for Future". Gilbert Houngbo introduced the main challenges we are facing these days through the major social and natural failures of our market. He continued by stressing the importance of not only looking at through the major social and natural failures of our market. He continued by stressing the importance of not only looking at food systems from the production side – the sustainability perspective – but also from the consumption side – the social and inclusiveness perspective. Basically, he requested a fair distribution of resources, revenues and end products of food systems. Regarding the role of the youth, Gilbert Houngbo considered that young people should not only be part of decision-making processes, but should even be at the center of change: youths in low-income countries should engage at the beginning of the production chain to determine working conditions, they should be end-consumers to help determine demand for food, they should start the transformation by minimizing loss and wests, and they should engage in patternine allowing for food, they should start the transformation by minimizing loss and waste, and they should engage in partnerships allowing them to play in the field with big corporations. Giorgio Marrapodi recognized that food systems are not only the main topic of the year with the upcoming Food Systems Summit, but actually the issue of the decade. He stressed the importance of acknowledging a transformative process for the people and the environment allowing to recognize the work behind food acknowledging a transformative process for the people and the environment allowing to recognize the work behind food without wasting and losing it. When it came to the youths, Giorgio Marrapodi highlighted the centrality of young people in the transformative process. At the same time, he stressed the importance of not giving away the responsibility of the older generations to change the system. Except for the food waste/loss issue, Christian Frutiger highlighted the main failure of current food systems, which is the health-issue: today, there are millions and millions of people facing either undernutrition, malnutrition, overnutrition, or obesity. His vision is that no one is left behind in a truly functioning market internalizing social and environmental consequences of our current behavior through a re-thinking of taxes and subsidies. Concerning the youth, Christian Frutiger highlighted the importance of "getting the science right" in order to have true definitions. He felt like the Food Systems Summit will be the beginning (and not the end) of a journey of change of food systems, even though he wished something like an IPCC of food systems as the outcome of the Summit. For this, Frutiger stressed the importance of involving all sectors from academia the public sector the private sector the multilateral system (IOs. IFIs), governments involving all sectors from academia, the public sector, the private sector, the multilateral system (IOs, IFIs), governments, civil society, etc.

ACTION TRACKS

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1	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		1	Environment and Climate

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

During the Bites of Transfoodmation Dispute also some points of divergence arose. For example, not everyone was convinced that the invisible wall dividing the urban and rural areas is actually real since, de facto, the city cannot live without its surrounding. Also, it was highlighted that tackling food-relates issues cannot be done the same way as addressing climate change, as many would like to do, because food systems are more complex than what we might think (ex. How often we think we consume something sustainable and when deepening more into it we discover it is not sustainable at all?). Another important point that was missing in the Manifesto was the fact that the group of young changemakers stressed the importance of data in improving accessibility of knowledge, but forgot to include an important selection criterion: Indeed, in order to avoid misinformation, disinformation or manipulated information, data needs to be reliable. Finally, in the third panel the contradiction of food being a Human Right in theoretical ad practical terms became evident, since the experts felt that food cannot be a public good due to its non-rival and non-excludable nature. Indeed, during the discussion, Maximo Torero underlined many times that, even though food should be a public good (since everyone has the right to food), it is impossible to understand it as such on a practical level because we are unable to provide it to everyone because of the resources' quantity limits. During the Bites of Transfoodmation Dispute also some points of divergence arose. For example, not everyone was quantity limits.

ACTION TRACKS

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		/	Environment and Climate

ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

RELEVANT LINKS

 BoT Dispute <u>https://vimeo.com/542184995/d01d91c838</u>

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