

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Wednesday, 9 June 2021 14:00 GMT +07:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Small Businesses: Good Food for All - Asia Pacific
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Chamber of Commerce, Grow Asia, International Agri-Food Network, Pinduoduo
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/14618/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/14618/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

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

85

## 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?

The dialogue was organised with full respect and commitment to the Principles of Engagement: Act with Urgency In light of this urgency, the Dialogue was organized as a contribution to the Food Systems Summit and to the elaboration of pathways to food systems transformation contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Commit to the Summit The Dialogue empowered stakeholders to participate in the preparation of the Food Systems Summit. All stakeholders were consulted about ways to move forward collectively and creatively, embracing the entire scope of opinions. The dialogue was organised around 2 main discussions which happened in small sub-groups to allow the most participative and safe open-discussions. Be Respectful Respect for one another is a foundation for genuine Dialogue. Participants in the Dialogues listened to each other and were open to the co-existence of divergent points of view. Each sub-group was facilitated by experienced facilitators who ensured everyone had an opportunity to express his/her opinions. Recognize Complexity Dialogues are an opportunity to embrace the complexity of food systems. They promote a systemic approach by involving multiple stakeholders to identify actions across the system together with potential synergies and trade-offs. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity The Dialogue brought to the table a diversity of stakeholders from within SMEs, Ecosystem Support Organisations (ESOs), the broader business community, small-holder farmers and civil society – working across the food system from production to consumption. Complement the work of others The Dialogue built-on and added-value to existing policy processes and initiatives. It provided an opportunity to share promising innovations, connect stakeholders, and broaden partnerships to transform food systems for the common good. Build Trust The Dialogue was curated and facilitated in a way which created a “safe space” and promoted trust, encouraging mutual respect. The conclusions emerging from the Dialogue are not attributed to single individuals.

### HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

It included multiple stakeholders, from government and public agencies, to small businesses and support organizations.

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

Ensure that all involved in the planning and organizing, curators, facilitators, speakers, are aware of these.

# 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

### 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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innovation                | <input type="checkbox"/> Data & Evidence         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human rights              | <input type="checkbox"/> Governance              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade-offs              |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Climate |

## MAIN FINDINGS

There was a heavy emphasis on (a) making providing “Good Food for All” rewarding for SMEs today, and in the future (pathway 1); (b) creating a conducive framework for them to do so durably (pathway 5); and (c) getting the wider public to understand the value that they are creating (pathway 6).

Underpinning all of this is that is the need for governments to create a supportive framework for SMEs in a sector where producers (i.e., smallholder farmers) tended to be in the informal economy and therefore invisible and unaccounted for. Governments have to also create legal frameworks that make it easier for them to operate, transact, and access credit. There are peculiar legacy issues that could make it hard for SMEs to operate, like inability to collateralize leases on land. Governments should also make it easy for them to get themselves heard. All of this is fundamental to retain people in rural areas and reverse urban-rural migration that is depleting the sector.

Going beyond, it is important to help bridge the digital divide and look at it in terms of arresting the lack of digital literacy in general and making stakeholders aware of the resources available. The next step would be to localize and maintain the data, and then rationalize and link multidisciplinary data together to make them understood. SMEs do not have the resources to do these alone, so they would need external help on this coordination. These will help SMEs operate better.

Finally, it is important for consumers to appreciate what SMEs are doing, particularly as they make quality improvements. They should be educated to accept higher prices for better quality products.

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

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

The dialogue came up with the following solutions:

- a. Invest heavily in education about how food is produced, the quality of the food available in our market, and what consuming different types of food does to us as consumers but also to others in the system
- b. Work to make good food no longer necessarily synonymous with unaffordable food, by redirecting financial resources and government support from large-scale, calorie-focused production models to more sustainable, ethical, and healthier types and combinations of foods
- c. Build up the value chain infrastructure that “good food” requires, rather than assuming that the existing infrastructure can be used to channel both unsustainable/unhealthy and “good” food at the same time without affecting or penalizing the latter
- d. Bridge the digital divide across rural/urban, income levels, and gender, both in terms of infrastructure coverage and in terms of literacy
- e. Localize e-commerce platforms, building integrated (input, service, and product) market solutions designed for the local level rather than for export, building on trends emerging around the recent pandemic in a number of countries
- f. Digitize the innovation finance ecosystem to make access to opportunities to obtain seed or innovation testing funding easier for farmers and small entrepreneurs who would otherwise either not know about these opportunities or find the processes associated with them too costly/long
- g. Make innovation labs available to small entrepreneurs to test their products or technologies, considering that for most of them it is impossible to develop internally or at their own expense this type of infrastructure

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

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was one area of debate, if not such divergence, which related to the role of governments in providing support to SMEs. Participants felt that there is a need to foster financial support not just from the government but also banks and other financial institutions in the process of capacity building of SMEs, especially during start up phase.

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