

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 19 May 2021 13:00 GMT +01:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Innovation in Farming to Create a Sustainable Food System
CONVENED BY	Treasa Cadogan - UN Major Group for Children and Youth & Catriona Fenton Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/15825/
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

20

19-30

4

31-50

3

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

11 Male

16 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

10 Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

4 Livestock

Agro-forestry

2 Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

5 Education

1 Communication

1 Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

2 Nutrition

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

2 Small-scale farmer

1 Medium-scale farmer

4 Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

2 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

4 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

4 United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

2 Consumer group

Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The moderator explained the Food Systems Summit and the importance of this Independent Dialogue and youth engagement with the food systems. Each of the four panellists spoke about the importance of a sustainable food system, innovation in agriculture and sustainable alternatives in agriculture. The participants were encouraged to be involved in the discussion through the chat function and the questions and answer session.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

There was an equal gender balance on the panel (two male and two female), from three countries. Each were from diverse backgrounds creating an inclusive dialogue. Open conversation was encouraged between the panellists and participants, which resulted in respectful discussion in the questions and answer session.

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

Have a diverse panel (e.g. age, background, gender, occupations, etc) to increase interest in the dialogue and encourage more conversation.

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 independent dialogue was created by young people for young people. The purpose of the event was to hear from young farmers across Europe. They shared their experiences as young farmers and agri-entrepreneurs and discussed the supports young farmers require in order to create a sustainable food system. The panel consisted of four inspiring farmers, agri-entrepreneurs from Ireland, Scotland and France. Throughout the Dialogue similar themes and concerns emerged. Creating a sustainable food system involves many interlinked topics such as environment, innovation, social and economic. Policy changes need to be implemented but the responsibility is also on individual farmers and consumers to create change. Innovation in farming is key in creating a sustainable food system. Highlighting the voices of young farmers is very important in the success of the UN Food Systems Summit. The enthusiasm of young people to be a part of this dialogue was evident in the lively questions and answer session.

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

MAIN FINDINGS

- Sustainability in farming includes environmental sustainability, economic sustainability and social sustainability.
- The whole food chain needs to take responsibility for the risks. At the moment only the farmers hold the risk.
- Generational renewal must be the centre of public policy to preserve food resources.
- The farmers and consumers need to be at the centre of decision making.
- Decent and reliable income is a necessity, through long term contracts to create stability and resilience.
- Public financial support through infrastructure improvements in rural areas and rural development is required.
- Consumers play a large role in driving demand and increased transparency in labelling is necessary to aid concise decision making.
- Innovation in farming is the future with public policy supports.
- Support for older farmers, including retirement plans and land transfer plans/structures need improvements. This should include access by young and new farmers. Alternatives to land ownerships need to be explored. Looking to Scotland for instance, there are a number of ways to have land including tenancy, rental, shared farming and employment.
- Taxation in farm renting needs to be amended in certain countries to encourage generational farm transfer.
- Bureaucracy in farming is dependent on policy and there needs to be incentives for farmers to change farming methods to sustainable alternatives.
- Having reliable and trustworthy news sources is important when researching new sustainable farm practices.
- Young people and young farmers feel the responsibility and burden of the climate crisis.
- Farmers must play their role in mitigating the effects of climate change through e.g., carbon storage, green energy production, increase organic farming practices, research and innovation.
- Innovation in farming technology and practices have huge potential to mitigate climate change and protect farmers against the effects of the ever changing environment.
- Regenerative farming is growing in popularity and should be further explored, to protect wildlife and land quality. Simple conscious mowing practices can have a great impact, e.g. nature strips - leaving a three meter margin on the outside of fields untouched to protect local wildlife.
- Animal management, genetic selection, multi species swards and reducing use of tractors and quads are all important elements in creating a sustainable food system.
- Sustainability can be inexpensive, small changes can make a huge difference and make a big impact.
- Preventable equipment for climate change needs to be increased and invested in these innovative technologies. Effective data collection is very important in this development research process. Technology for example Grasshopper, can be used to increase and utilise grass and analyse farm data to use the land meat effectively and sustainably.
- Silage plastic and wrap is a big issue in farm waste management.
- Wool should be explored more as it is an underestimated material in recent years.
- The contrast between two panellists in organic farming and technology heavy farming practices gave great variety and insight into different approaches but all created a positive effect on creating a sustainable food system.

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

See main findings for details.

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 a difference between the definition of sustainability for the panellists along with having different sustainable food system priorities. They included; climate change effect, increased yield in a more environmental way, policies or self-driven changes.

ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" 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"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate