

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Wednesday, 26 May 2021 10:00 GMT +03:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Improving the health and nutritional status of school children in Kuwait
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Dr. Reem Al-Fulaij - Public Authority for Food and Nutrition Kuwait
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/16241/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/16241/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Member State
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Kuwait

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

118

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

3 0-18      19 19-30      65 31-50      27 51-65      4 66-80      0 80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

36 Male      82 Female      Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

4	Agriculture/crops	28	Education	18	Health care
1	Fish and aquaculture	3	Communication	11	Nutrition
3	Livestock	12	Food processing	7	National or local government
1	Agro-forestry	8	Food retail, markets	1	Utilities
3	Environment and ecology	8	Food industry	3	Industrial
2	Trade and commerce	1	Financial Services	4	Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	1	Workers and trade union
15	Large national business	0	Member of Parliament
4	Multi-national corporation	8	Local authority
3	Small-scale farmer	25	Government and national institution
0	Medium-scale farmer	0	Regional economic community
0	Large-scale farmer	12	United Nations
6	Local Non-Governmental Organization	0	International financial institution
7	International Non-Governmental Organization	5	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
0	Indigenous People	5	Consumer group
17	Science and academia	9	Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

Kuwait recognized the importance of hosting phase two of National Food Systems Dialogue as part of Member State Dialogue. Kuwait was the first Arab country to hold a member state National Food System Dialogue on 30 March 2021. During phase one of the dialogue, many important topics were raised, most importantly improving nutritional status of school children in Kuwait. The event embraced the Summit principles of engagement: Act with Urgency, commit to the Summit, Be Respectful, Recognize Complexity, Embrace Multi Stakeholder Inclusivity, Complement the Work of Others, and Build Trust

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

Kuwait National Food Systems Dialogues invited multiple stakeholders with a background related to school children health and academia to participate in phase two of the National dialogue in preparation of the UN Food Systems Summit in September 2021. The dialogue was organized by the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) - Kuwait and was held virtually. Participants included stakeholders from Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Kuwait University, parents, food industry, Non Governmental Organization, activists, research and academic institutions, National security agency, FAO headquarters, Kuwait representative at FAO and most importantly school students. This diverse group of stakeholders provided a comprehensive view of nutritional and health status of school children in Kuwait. Participants shared diverse perspectives, discussed and recommended applicable solutions. The Chatham House Rule of non-attribution encouraged participants to engage in the discussion.

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

It is very important to appreciate the principles of engagement when preparing for the dialogue. Spending enough time to list all stakeholders related to the topic discussed is important to ensure a successful dialogue. It is also noted that the inclusion of decision makers from Ministry of Education, as well as school students and parents had an added value to the dialogue and ensured that no one was left behind. Every opinion is important, and everyone shared their views in a very respectful manner.

# 3. METHOD

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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

Kuwait held a national phase 2 dialogue addressing improving the nutritional status of school children in Kuwait virtually on 26 May 2021 in preparation for the Food Systems Summit (FSS) in September 2021. Different stakeholders participated in the dialogue representing sectors related to nutrition and health of school students with a total of 118 participants. Participants conducted a thorough diagnosis of overweight and obesity among school students which highlighted the following points:

- 1) Lack of nutritional awareness in the school environment (administration, students and parents).
- 2) Unhealthy school food environment.
- 3) Insufficient implementation of physical education curriculum in some government schools.
- 4) Failure of school administrations to abide by school canteen regulations.

### 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

1. Developing a national nutrition strategy under the umbrella of the Council of Ministers to ensure the achievement of sustainable development goals regarding food security. It was stressed on the importance of meeting nutritional requirements of the population and focus on providing health promotion and education.
2. Mobilize government, private sector, and civil society support to ensure implementation.
3. Develop a national committee for promoting the nutritional status of school children chaired by PAFN with Ministry of Education and School Health Department in the Ministry of Health to implement and monitor WHO/FAO recommendations on school children.
4. Collaboration between PAFN and Ministry of Education to raise nutritional awareness and capacity building among the school administration, parents, and students.
5. Collaboration between PAFN and food industry regarding the importance of reformulating school snacks ( no added sugars, no added salt, no TFA and no sugar sweetened beverages).
6. Enforcing physical education curriculum and adding nutrition and applied nutrition curricula.
7. Developing school agricultural projects and activities to educate students on the importance of sustainable food production , by selling planted school produce in school canteens and motivating students to participate in school farming competitions, in collaboration with Public Authority for Food and Nutrition , the Public Authority Of Agriculture Affairs And Fish Resources and the Environment Public Authority.
8. Conduct research to evaluate and assess the following - before and after implementation:
  - Nutrition awareness programs of school canteen staff .
  - Dietary food habits among school children.
  - The effectiveness of enforcing physical education.

### ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/2

- 1) Establishing the national committee for promoting the nutritional status of school children chaired by PAFN with Ministry of Education and school Health Department in the Ministry of Health to implement and monitor WHO/FAO recommendations on school children.
- 2) Partnership with food Industry for abiding with and reformulation of food products.
- 3) Conducting research with academic institutions in Kuwait to assess, evaluate and monitor policies and intervention programs.
- 4) Collaboration with Ministry of Information for promoting nutrition policies and activities in the country.

### ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/2

### 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 |



## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was no disagreement between participants. In fact all participants agreed on the importance of improving nutritional status of school children and developing appropriate and corrective actions to reduce health risks.

### ACTION TRACKS

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# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

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## ATTACHMENTS

- **Nawal Benian - Grade 4 school student**  
<https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Nawal-School-Health-Nutrition.jpg>
- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Hoor-Al-Ghuraeb.jpg>
- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Dialogue-preparation.jpg>
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