

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 25 May 2021 10:00 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Food loss and food waste management in Kuwait
CONVENED BY	Dr. Reem Al-Fulaij -Public Authority for Food and Nutrition Kuwait
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/16258/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	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

75

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18 15 19-30 46 31-50 11 51-65 3 66-80 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

38 Male 37 Female Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

2	Agriculture/crops	6	Education	4	Health care
3	Fish and aquaculture	0	Communication	2	Nutrition
2	Livestock	10	Food processing	12	National or local government
0	Agro-forestry	8	Food retail, markets	1	Utilities
3	Environment and ecology	16	Food industry	3	Industrial
3	Trade and commerce	0	Financial Services	0	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

3	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	2	Workers and trade union
15	Large national business	0	Member of Parliament
8	Multi-national corporation	2	Local authority
1	Small-scale farmer	19	Government and national institution
3	Medium-scale farmer	0	Regional economic community
0	Large-scale farmer	7	United Nations
6	Local Non-Governmental Organization	0	International financial institution
0	International Non-Governmental Organization	1	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
0	Indigenous People	3	Consumer group
5	Science and academia	0	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 food loss and food waste management 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 managing food loss and food waste in Kuwait 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 government sector, private sector, food industry, Non Governmental Organization, activists, research and academic institutions, FAO headquarters and Kuwait representative at FAO. This diverse group of stakeholders provided a comprehensive view about food loss and food waste in Kuwait and means to manage them effectively and maintain sustainability. 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 Public authority of agriculture and fish affairs, Environment Public Authority as well as food charities 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

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

The participants focused on the proper consumption requirements which depends on proper production, and the need for clear organization and policy to regulate the process of local productions, marketing them, and encourage food industries by modifying and changing the subsidy policy, and that the subsidy be done according to the quality and not the quantity. There was also a focus on the importance of protecting the local products from competition in the market, due to the inability of local food companies to market their products, forcing producers to throw their products away and waste them. A proposal was discussed to license factories to convert the surplus production to other food products. Participants also discussed the importance of managing water by treating wasted water from residential and industrial units and use it for plant irrigation not for food consumption.

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

The following are some solutions proposed to reduce food waste :

1. allocating shelves for food commodities that are near their expiration date, to be offered for sale at a reduced value in the food market.

2. Restaurant owners provide meals in different portions at appropriate prices, in order to encourage customers to order meals with small quantities of food at reduced prices, which contributes to reducing waste.

3- involving charities like the Kuwait Food and Relief Bank to distribute the surplus food for quick consumption to needy families, with the importance of applying food tracking mechanisms and policies to ensure food safety and consumer protection.

4. Providing information about storage methods for foodstuff and directions for preserving foods on the packaging label.

5- Using modern technology to reduce food waste, such as electronic platforms and applications to reach the needy and distribute food to them as a societal responsibility. Furthermore, excess and surplus meals can be registered and sold the next day at a lower price to low-income people.

6. Emphasize the importance of issuing laws and legislations to reduce food and water waste.

7. Increase consumer awareness:

* To encourage buying their needs only without the need to store foodstuff in large quantities.

* To ration purchase as needed to reduce food waste.

* To amend purchasing and consumption habits so that the consumers prepare a list of their food needed before heading to the food store so that the consumers are obligated to buy only their needs according to the pre-prepared list

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

1. The importance of establishing a Supreme committee for food security headed by the prime minister and members from PAFN, Public Authority for agriculture affairs and fish resources, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Customs Bureau, Chamber of commerce, Public Authority of Investment, food unions and relevant stakeholders.
2. Establish laws and legislations to allow near expiry date food products to be sold at a lower price while maintaining its safety.
3. Allowing licensed factories to convert surplus production to other form of food products and commodities.
4. Collaborating with Ministry of Information to promote awareness about proper water use and food consumption.
5. Reformulating subsidy policies to widen the variety and diversity to benefit all

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was agreement among the participants regarding the necessity of finding solutions to manage food and water loss and waste in Kuwait.
There were different views of food subsidies. Some suggested increasing the amount of subsidies on some food products, while others called for an immediate need to reevaluate the current protocol of subsidies.
Some participants advocated the imposition of food taxation (sugar tax), while others disagreed.
There were few participants who advised the increase in the prices of water and some foods, which contributes to the rationing of consumption, while others objected this opinion because it will increased the economic burden on most families.

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ادارة-الفاقد-والمهدر-من-الطعام.docx>
- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Dialogue-preparation-1.jpg>
- https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/25May21certificate_compressed.pdf