

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 1 June 2021 17:00 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Youth as food systems actors and transformers: Global voices for inclusion
CONVENED BY	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/16711/
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

236

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

140 19-30

79 31-50

13 51-65

3 66-80

1 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

98 Male

132 Female

6 Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

7 Agriculture/crops

3 Fish and aquaculture

17 Livestock

4 Agro-forestry

41 Environment and ecology

10 Trade and commerce

31 Education

7 Communication

15 Food processing

Food retail, markets

7 Food industry

4 Financial Services

Health care

Nutrition

1 National or local government

Utilities

1 Industrial

42 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

27 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

9 Multi-national corporation

39 Small-scale farmer

8 Medium-scale farmer

2 Large-scale farmer

10 Local Non-Governmental Organization

19 International Non-Governmental Organization

4 Indigenous People

56 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

0 Member of Parliament

0 Local authority

11 Government and national institution

2 Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

3 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

1 Consumer group

28 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The dialogue brought in diversity of presenters with different experiences and backgrounds from Greece, Costa Rica, Ghana, South Africa, China, Kenya, Uganda, Benin, and Cameroon. It built on this complexity to appreciate diverse operations globally, understand and appreciate the work that others are doing across the world to inspire and impact youth and to in particular engage the youth talent.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Diversity was drawn from nationalities, from work of students and youth involved in the delivery of services in the world work. Through the preparation of sessions, all the participants were debriefed in order to garner and build trust.

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

A proper of orientation of the speakers is critical to ensuring that quality dialogue is undertaken.

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 “Youth as food systems actors and transformers: Global voices for inclusion” dialogue session recognized youth as critical agents for change. Countries seeking to attain the SDGs with the commitment of leaving no one behind ought to engage youth from diverse backgrounds at various levels of planning, implementation and monitoring of interventions. This is particularly because youth are critical thinkers, change makers, innovators, communicators, and leaders of today and tomorrow. This session focused on:

1. Youth and the food systems in Africa: the context for opportunities
2. Youth in active service for marginalized in fragile societies: Lessons from AUB interventions with Refugee communities
3. Young Professionals reshaping the progressive food system: the case of building resilient food systems
4. Building a business dream by gaps in food System: Case of poultry deficit in Nigeria
5. How young people are helping smallholder farmers in Kenya grow their enterprises
6. Innovations needed for delivering food across Africa
7. Learning from Greece: an integrative education for transforming food systems
8. Lessons from China on avoiding environmental harm from agriculture and restoring affected ecosystems
9. Ensuring security using indigenous food systems approach: Lessons from Canada

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. COVID-19 has impacted every country in the world, exacerbated food insecurity in the countries especially in the developing world. The biggest challenge of our life time but there is also opportunity to build resilience and transformative change.
2. There is a strong need for collective responsibility to create pathways to sustainable agriculture.
3. Youth voices are powerful and helpful in helping to mobilize young people to open opportunities in the value chains and other sectors that can enable their meaningful contribution in the sector and economy. By involving young people and their voices, it will create opportunities in a sustainable way.
4. The place of youth in the food systems is in; technological innovation, socio-economic transformation, and political participation
5. Opportunities for youth strongly exist in; entrepreneurship and employment, and transferrable skills development
6. The food system is the biggest employer of the people and owing to the farm to fork arrangements, it is a sector that is heavy on resources and will provide an opening for employing millions of African youth.
7. Technology can be a friend especially for the youth however it can also be an enemy. Thus, there is need to ensure that take advantage of technology for the benefit of humanity. Need to ensure that technology works for the people and keep people in the sector and so that we do not replace the people within agriculture to create another crisis.
8. Africa's food system needs to integrate the private sector for it to successfully experience a transformation. Without the private sector role, there will be no clear and meaningful transformation.
9. It is important to develop capacities of young people through providing appropriate and relevant education to the young people.
10. Empowering youth is part of a strong part of empowering communities. Three key approaches ought to be considered; Bottom-up approach, Empowerment of youth approach and Inclusivity
11. Young people need to see the large opportunities in the value chains and see these opportunities as their launch pads for entrepreneurship. However, they ought to appreciate that this must be profitable. Further, because Africa has more mouths to feed and the ability to feed these populations, this enables to unlock the entrepreneurship, opportunities of jobs, activate other sectors
12. Youth also need to appreciate that they can only be useful in the value chains if they are adding value to the value chains. They can contribute to this through innovation. and then see the opportunities
13. There is need to support agri-tech start-ups for young people through flexible business models and incubation hubs
14. Africa needs a diversity of innovations; innovation in food science, innovation in food technology and innovations in post-harvest
15. There is need to decolonise indigenous food systems of the world and return them to their sustainable food systems.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

1. There is a whole paradigm shift that needs to happen in terms of getting young people into agriculture and garner their active participation in the food systems. It is also important to recognize that not every young person wants to be a farmer but there opportunities for young people beyond the farm.
2. Agricultural innovation and innovation led entrepreneurship is strongly required among African youth if they are to harness the diverse opportunities that the food systems offer.
3. Youth are a strong part of society and their empowerment and full participation in productive processes and sectors of the economy are critical.
4. For African youth, they should see the population growth in the continent as opportunity to ensure they feed them but feeding them provides them financial opportunities and prosperity in agribusiness.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

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KEYWORDS

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy |
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