

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 16 June 2021 17:30 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Innovation to Transform our Food Systems: The Contribution of AgriFoodTech
CONVENED BY	Anne Le More; Alessio d'Antino Forward Fooding
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/18258/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	France, Israel, Italy, No borders, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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

200

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

1 0-18 19-30 31-50 51-65 66-80 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

Male

Female

200 Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

1 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

1 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?

We talked to food tech entrepreneurs who are revolutionising the food system through their companies committed to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Our Dialogue embraced multi-stakeholder inclusion by including representatives from the UN system and 5 entrepreneurs from different verticals of the FoodTech industry on the panel. These included: vertical farming to alternative proteins such as plant-based meat, algae ingredients, the transformation of food waste into protein through insects, and molecular dairy. Panelists included experts from different countries, and half of them were women. All panelists shared their experiences and knowledge with mutual respect and understanding. Moreover, the event was open to everyone interested in the topic, from young people with no experience to people with more expertise in the field. In total there were 200 participants.

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

N/A

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

The engagement took place in an online Zoom meeting. We started with a short speech from the founder and CEO of Forward Fooding, Alessio Dantino and an introduction about the UN Food Systems Summit by the dialogue's convener and UN Food Systems Champion Dr Anne Le More. This was followed by a keynote speech by Dr. Martin Frick, Deputy Special Envoy to the UN Food Systems Summit. Then took place a panel discussion with 5 FoodTech founders from leading FoodTech 500 companies, operating at different levels of the supply chain. The companies were : Infarm, Gold & Green Foods, Algama Foods, Better Origin and Better Dairy. And finally we had a Q&A round.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

We focused our dialogue on exploring the different sustainable approaches of foodtech entrepreneurs, the impact they want to create and the challenges they are facing along the way, as well as the evolution of both investor and consumer acceptance.

We asked several entrepreneurs from the following Vertical Farming, Alternative Proteins and Waste Managements verticals within the foodtech world to share with us about their solutions to transform our industry into a more sustainable one.

We made a journey through different technologies, from vertical farming to alternative proteins such as plant-based meat, algae ingredients, the transformation of food waste into protein through insects, and molecular dairy.

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 main conclusions reached on the challenges faced by entrepreneurs in undertaking sustainable solutions to combat the current fragility of the food system, are the following:

One of the biggest obstacles is mainly in the minds of consumers, and their rejection of new products because of the lack of education. So educating people and making them understand what the new normal is, is key. And it is not only about educating the consumers but also about reaching out to the big corporations and making them understand the need to create a change in the supply chain.

Regulation and policy must play an important role in the future. Helping and working with the regulator to unlock certain packages to drive the industry forward, is a key priority. The importance of policy, if we are to introduce sustainable solutions on a large scale, is very significant. Many new technologies take time to become cost-effective, but if policy makers help entrepreneurs by offering carbon credits, emissions taxes or providing real incentives, it would be a big boost to overcome this initial moment of inertia and to have a wider choice available more quickly.

The Covid pandemic highlighted the fragility of our supply chain and the importance of local production and safe food.

To help change towards the creation of an alternative, sustainable and healthier food system, we need to embrace transparency, open thinking, to claim loudly and boldly what is wanted to be achieved and how it is to be achieved. Be more inclusive and also welcome feedback and ideas from peers, innovators and consumers.

One of the keys is the willingness to invest in factories and hardware. Without infrastructure, foodtech companies cannot do research on their own. Fortunately, we are seeing more and more investors willing to invest in it.

All concluded that the evolution on the food tech acceptance has been very positive in recent years. 50% of consumers on the next decade will be millennials and generation z, and they are already very much educated and informed and prefer local, healthy and diverse products. To make sure that this evolution continues to grow, it is necessary to make sure to make food very affordable and to create solutions that are accessible to most people on the planet.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Action Points:

Ensure affordability and accessibility

Educate consumers and companies

Make changes in the regulation and policy to unlock the evolution of new food technology

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

N/A

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **DIALOGUE-Official Feedback Form**
<https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/DIALOGUE-Official-Feedback-Form-Structure.docx>

RELEVANT LINKS

- **Youtube Video Dialogue - Official Feedback Form**
<https://youtu.be/bEyqcHWKsOE>