

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 1 June 2021 09:00 GMT +07:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Provincial multi-sectoral coordination for sustainable food systems
CONVENED BY	His Excellency Sok Silo, Secretary General, Council for Agricultural and Rural Development
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/18522/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Cambodia

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

77

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

3

19-30

53

31-50

21

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

56 Male

21 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

5 Agriculture/crops

2 Fish and aquaculture

1 Livestock

2 Agro-forestry

Environment and ecology

2 Trade and commerce

3 Education

4 Communication

Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

2 Health care

17 Nutrition

23 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

11 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

1 Multi-national corporation

3 Small-scale farmer

1 Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

2 Local Non-Governmental Organization

11 International Non-Governmental Organization

2 Indigenous People

Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

7 Local authority

23 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

4 United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

1 Consumer group

16 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The dialogue was organized by the Convenor, HE Sok Silo, Director General of the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) and supported by GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit) and Hellen Keller International (HKI). In 2020, four Provincial Working Groups for Coordinating Food Security and Nutrition (PWG-FSN) in Ratanakiri, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom and Kampot were officially acknowledged by CARD. The establishment of these multi-sectoral PWGs-FSN was support by GIZ (in Kampong Thom and Kampot) and HKI (in Ratanakiri and Kampong Chhnang). In a strong commitment to the World Food Systems Summit 2021, CARD, HKI and GIZ found it of utmost importance and urged that the perspectives of the members of these four PWGs-FSN are included in the national dialogue process. The members of the PWGs-FSN were purposefully invited to participate in the online event. The curator and facilitators of the event were trained by the global dialogue support team and as such ensured that the dialogue embraced the principles of being respectful to each other, to recognize and appreciate complexity and to build a trustful relationship between participants for a fruitful discussion.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Build trust and complement the work of others: Because of COVID -19, it was the first time that the chairs and members of the four PWGs-FSN were connected to CARD via an online meeting. As such, this dialogue did not only contribute to the Food Systems Dialogue in Cambodia, but also enabled for the first time that the members of all four PWGs-FSN met each other and were able to share their experiences with each other. All PWGs-FSN could share their successful progress but also their challenges and lessons learned – which often were similar among the provinces. Therefore, this dialogue built relationships of trust among the members of the PWGs-FSN, but also provided a knowledge exchange platform which should be repeated on a regular base.

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

Shifting to digital platforms at subnational level poses many challenges, such as limited equipment, knowledge and connectivity. There are concerns that these challenges will impact the overall success of the dialogue. Our experience shows that these challenges can be overcome with extra efforts in preparing stakeholders and ensuring patience and a positive atmosphere during the dialogue process. The extra effort to include subnational perspectives were invaluable not only for the Cambodia Food Systems dialogue but especially for the future operationalization and knowledge exchange of the PWGs-FSN, particularly in the process of nationwide up-scaling.

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 Provincial Working Groups for Coordinating Food Security and Nutrition (PWGs-FSN) are an essential instrument for the sub-national implementation of the 2nd National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN) 2019-2023. Since 2020, four PWGs-FSN have been officially acknowledged by CARD and currently, efforts are taken to up-scale the PWGs-FSN to all provinces of Cambodia. The PWGs-FSN are in their early phase of operationalization and their lessons learned are invaluable not only to the focus on sustainable food systems for improving food security and nutrition but also to the nationwide up-scaling.

The in-depth dialogue engaged members of the PWGs-FSN of four provinces to share their views and experiences regarding the potential of provincial multi-sectoral coordination towards sustainable food systems.

Participants were encouraged to discuss the role of the PWGs-FSN in achieving sustainable food systems for Cambodia. Challenges for the provincial coordination and possible solutions to overcome these challenges were identified. The discussion focused on different tools or levers of change that can accelerate role of PWGs-FSN towards realizing sustainable food systems, such as governance, finance, data, culture, innovation and empowerment of women and youth.

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
- ✓ Policy
- Innovation
- ✓ Data & Evidence
- Human rights
- ✓ Governance
- ✓ Women & Youth Empowerment
- Trade-offs
- Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

In a plenary session, the Deputy Provincial Governors of Ratanakiri, Kampong Thom, Kampot and Kampong Chhnang, as Chairs of the PWGs-FSN, elaborated on their success stories as well as lessons learned during their less than one-year operational period. All PWGs-FSN set up their own actions plans and held regular coordination meetings. They were further involved in trainings or events by CARD related to the 2nd NSFSN 2021 and supported the commune council training for integrating food security and nutrition into the commune development and investment plans. COVID-19 imposed many barriers to their operations.

Many of Cambodia's indigenous communities live in Ratanakiri, therefore, the PWG-FSN places special emphasis on the improvement of food security and nutrition for indigenous communities.

The dialogue highlighted the key-role of the PWGs-FSN for coordinated action for food security and nutrition as well as nutrition advocacy at subnational level. Because of its multi-sectoral membership, the PWGs-FSN are set up to apply a food systems approach. Areas of action identified were: creating better market access to farmers, increasing nutrition-sensitivity and food safety along local value chains; healthy consumer demands; infrastructure and irrigation systems; protecting natural resources and combating climate change; emergency preparedness and shock responsiveness.

Good governance mechanisms and frameworks for the PWGs-FSN, capacity development as well as knowledge and information systems (incl. monitoring and evaluation) were deemed central to the effectiveness of the PWGs-FSN. The role of the private sector towards sustainable food systems was strongly acknowledged, but guidelines on how to involve the private sector into provincial coordination need to be developed. Advocacy for food systems for healthy nutrition needs strengthening to enable better integration of nutrition in subnational planning and investment processes. The potential role of PWGs-FSN in shock-responsiveness needs further investigation. The acknowledgement and preservation of indigenous people's food systems needs to be an integrated part in the work of the PWGs-FSN – in provinces with indigenous ethnic groups.

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KEYWORDS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Finance | Policy |
| Innovation | ✓ Data & Evidence |
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| Women & Youth Empowerment | Trade-offs |
| | ✓ Environment and Climate |

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

TOPIC 1. The role of the PWGs-FSN for sustainable food systems

The PWGs-FSN see their most important role in the coordination of different stakeholders at provincial and local levels, including provincial administration and department, district level administration, and civil society. Urgency was expressed to strengthen the involvement of the private sector into the mechanism of multi-stakeholder coordination. The coordination role also applies in connecting and supporting all stakeholders who produce, distribute and consume food – highlighting the potential role of PWGs-FSN in creating better market access to farmers, increasing nutrition-sensitivity and food safety along local value chains and the creation of healthy consumer demands. The importance of the investment in infrastructure, modern agricultural technology and irrigation systems as foundation for sustainable food systems was further iterated. The PWGs-FSN further emphasized their role in protecting natural resources, enhance soil quality and combating climate change. Emergency preparedness and shock responsiveness was named as potential role for the PWGs-FSN, such as social protection mechanisms that can respond to food shortages or better irrigation and infrastructure systems that can mitigate natural disasters.

PWGs-FSN also see their role as advocates for sustainable food systems – this being of particular importance in advocating for nutrition investment from national to commune level.

Coordination of data and information flow to identify priority areas for action and/or investment is also seen a potential role of the PWGs-FSN.

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KEYWORDS

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

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KEYWORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data & Evidence |
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| | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Climate |

CORRECTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR CHANGES

Title Speech by HE Sok Silo

Date 30/07/2021

Addition of Opening Remarks by HE Sok Silo CARD

ATTACHMENTS

- **Opening Remarks by HE Sok Silo for Dialogue on Provincial Coordination**
https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Speech_on_PWG-FSN-on-1-June_2021.pdf