

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Monday, 28 June 2021 15:00 GMT +08:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Towards Safe Food, Nutritious Diets, and Resilient Food Systems
CONVENED BY	Qingfeng Zhang, Chief, Rural Development and Food Security (Agriculture) Thematic Group, ADB; Md Abul Basher Agricultural and Natural Resource Specialist, ADB
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/20672/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Mongolia, 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

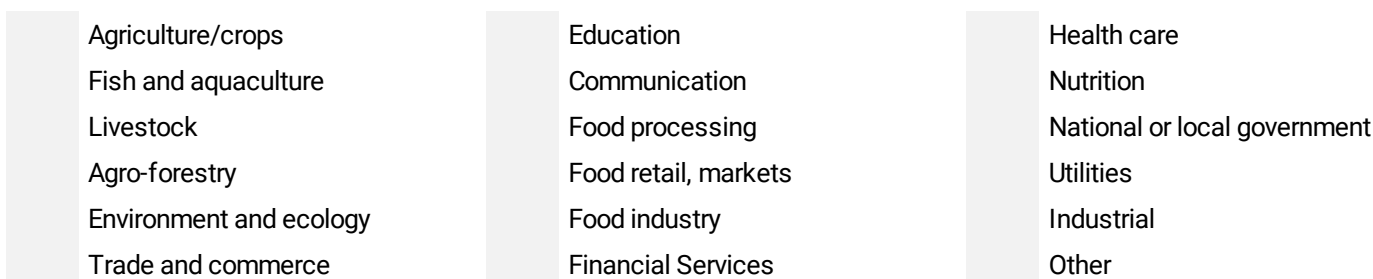
PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE



PARTICIPATION BY GENDER



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP



2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The following principles engagement were used: 1. Act of urgency: The economic and demographic transitions has been increasing the meat consumption resulting in increased use of land and other agricultural resources. Besides, high consumption of animal-based protein is associated with diet-related diseases like obesity, heart diseases, and cancer. All these call for a urgent actions to promote a responsible production and a healthy consumption pathway striking a balance between animal and plant protein. The dialogue was organized in respond to this urgent call. 2. Commit to the Summit: Asian Development Bank is committed to transform the current inefficient food system in developing countries and to support the UN initiatives in this regard. The participants of our dialogues acquired a better understanding of different aspects and complexities of the food system and hence are better prepared now to participate in the Food Systems Summit. 3. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity: The dialogue brought together different stakeholders from private sector, government, academia, development practitioners in the same table to exchange ideas and experiences. 4. Complement the work of others: The dialogue organized with partnership and participation with a number of organizations which provide the opportunity to collaborate and complement the works of one another.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

1. The dialogue used Mongolia as a lens country to discuss how to promote responsible production and healthy consumption pathways. It involved the country director of ADB Resident Mission and FAO country residential representative along with the Secretary of Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia facilitate the actionable recommendations of the dialogue. 2. The dialogue involved experts from Wegenerian University and University of Agriculture Faisalabad to discuss different aspects of the food system, and importance of balanced between animal and plant-based protein. These discussions were followed by practitioners and development financiers on how to build a resilient food system. 3. The dialogue was organized in partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and with the participation of the World Vegetable Center, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, private sector, and academia. 4. The dialogue discussed how ADB, IFAD, European Investment Bank, World Organization for Animal Health, World Vegetable Centers, and Mastercard can work together in the coming days by complementing one another's work.

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

No.

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 dialogue explored Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production, instrumental to Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all. The dialogue discussed how demographic and economic transitions have shifted toward increased meat consumption globally, but at a faster rate in Asia, led by the People's Republic of China. Meat production and consumption are associated with several diet-related and zoonotic diseases as well as greenhouse gas emissions and increased use of land and water. This has intensified the feed–food competition that has made the production of crops required to feed the growing world population more difficult. The discussions were divided into two sessions and highlighted the need for a new strategy involving responsible production with reduced environmental footprint and healthy consumption that balances between animal and plant-based food.

The first session used Mongolia as a lens, a vegetable-importing and meat-exporting country, where the traditional seminomadic pastoral livestock sector accounts for about 90% of agricultural production and employs 1 in 4 Mongolians. Ongoing and planned activities of development organizations to promote the responsible production of livestock and vegetables were discussed. The keynote presentation by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided the country context and a summary of ongoing initiatives promoting green agriculture and resilient recovery from the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Succeeding discussions from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Wageningen University and Research, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and World Vegetable Center focused on the following aspects:

- (i) key government initiatives required to support the transition towards obtaining protein from more diverse and resource-efficient sources;
- (ii) keeping vegetables safe for consumption;
- (iii) strengthening regional collaboration in the Asia-Pacific region to promote animal health;
- (iv) priority investment areas to retain the freshness and nutritious value of vegetables in the transition from field to plate; and
- (v) the main lessons learned from pilot interventions in Mongolia to build green livestock and how to scale up the industry.

The second session discussed how to transform agricultural value chains into sustainable and productive ones while delivering nutritious food. The keynote presentation laid the importance of food system transformation to build back better, barriers in scaling up food system transformation with sustainable financing as the biggest challenge, and efforts by ADB and partners to address the financing gap through the establishment of an Innovative Natural Capital Financing Facility (INCF). Discussions by Mastercard, International Fund for Agricultural Development, ADB, and the European Investment Bank (EIB) followed the keynote presentation. The key areas of discussions include:

- (i) building farmer networks as an agricultural e-market place to digitize supply chains to convert smaller holders in Asia into agents for digital agriculture;
- (ii) promotion of an integrated, inclusive, and green recovery, deviating from the rural–urban dichotomous development paradigm;
- (iii) identification of initiatives of development organizations, like ADB, to increase private investments to build green livestock;
- (iv) sharing of experiences in promoting “nutrition-sensitive” agriculture in other areas in Asia; and
- (v) establishment of a natural capital financing facility for biodiversity conservation and nature-based solution to promote balanced diet.

ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women & Youth Empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade-offs
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate

MAIN FINDINGS

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and magnified the vulnerabilities of food systems. At the same time, it catalyzed innovative interventions (e-commerce and digitization of the value chain) to supply food to consumers. Mobilizing investments in transforming food systems towards sustainable and nature positive production systems is key to ensuring the success of green and resilient recovery. Moreover, initiatives to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic must take these innovative approaches into consideration to help deliver on the SDGs, particularly SDG2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (climate change action), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG15 (life on land).

Mongolia needs to focus on the whole livestock sector value chain to penetrate the global meat market. Also emphasized was the need for improving rangeland and pastureland management and utilization as well as the adoption of the “One Health” approach that recognizes the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. ADB, EIB, and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have initiated a collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach in Mongolia to promote green growth, including the livestock sector. Under this approach, a total of \$750 million will be invested in the country to: (i) provide small investments for better rangeland and grazeland management; (ii) improve cooperative management through the infusion of additional working capital and provision of needed infrastructure; (iii) provide financial intermediaries with low interest loans for herders; and (iv) provide guarantees and grants to the private sector with the agreement that they will buy from herders who have committed to better rangeland management. It is worth highlighting that these recommendations have big potential for replication in member countries of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program as their food systems are also dominated by livestock consumption.

ADB and OIE agreed to partner on:

- (i) promoting animal health;
- (ii) supporting the safe trade of animals and animal products relating to standards and regulations; and
- (iii) instituting appropriate policies and regulations utilizing the One Health approach in developing Asian countries, including Mongolia.

The upcoming country partnership strategy of ADB for Mongolia revolves around sustainable and inclusive recovery with three strategic priorities:

- (i) inclusive social development (social protection, health, and education);
- (ii) climate resilient infrastructure; and
- (iii) building strength and resilience of the rural economy.

Specific focus will be given to the transformation of food systems by promoting an integrated approach for development, a notable departure from the rural–urban dichotomous development paradigm. Also, export promotion (including livestock) and trade linkages will be given importance in the partnership strategy.

In making plant-based proteins affordable, the proposed approach is to look at production and consumption together and address the issue of “feed–food competition” through increased livestock production while simultaneously looking for alternative potential crops for feed. Complementary to this, postharvest losses of vegetables have to be reduced and the nutritious value of food has to be retained from field to market by setting up an effective production and marketing system. Collection centers around production areas in the cold chain and other agri-logistics must be developed in the hinterlands. Some of these centers can work as terminal markets while others can specialize and serve the function of an assembly market depending on the need of the locality. These centers will also require organized transport to carry goods from farms. These centers should also provide spaces for sorting, cleaning, grading, packaging, and storage in consideration of the strong seasonal nature and diverse quality of production.

The role of vegetable cultivation between two harvests of main cereal crops in a rice-based system was also identified as an effective way to increase the availability of plant-based protein. The importance of developing new vegetable varieties that are resistant to abiotic and biotic constraints, and rich in protein was emphasized. ADB has partnered with the World Vegetable Center to facilitate policy and institutional support in this regard with the view of strengthening collaboration in the coming days.

ADB is working with partners in developing the INCF to scale up much-needed investments in transforming food systems. The focus of this new facility will include: (i) leveraging private sector participation for enhanced ecosystem services; (ii) linking investments to agricultural insurance products to help farmers manage risks; and (iii) using the platform to help minimize food losses and food waste.

ADB, EIB, and GCF have confirmed to work together to set up the INCF to support green agri-business platform while the International Fund for Agricultural Development and FAO can potentially join this important endeavor later after further discussions. This dialogue brought together a number of development organizations and created an opportunity to kickstart an innovative financing platform to transform our food system for a green and resilient recovery, and future.

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

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

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

- | | |
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| <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

Nothing

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

ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **Presentation on Building Balanced Diet**
https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Building-Balanced-Food-and-Nutrition-Security-A-case-study-on-Mongolia_PR.pdf
- **Presentation on Innovative Financing**
https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Innovative-financing_QZ.pdf