

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Friday, 16 July 2021 10:00 GMT +03:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	GAPS, OPPORTUNITIES AND BARRIERS IN FOOD LOSS AND WASTAGE IN KENYA'S FOOD SYSTEMS
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	FARM AFRICA KENYA - Anastasia Mbatia
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/21161/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/21161/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Kenya

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

25

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

10

19-30

15

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

15 Male

10 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

17 Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

2 Livestock

2 Agro-forestry

1 Environment and ecology

5 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

2 Large national business

Multi-national corporation

1 Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

1 Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

5 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

3 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?

Identification of a problem that became the topic of the dialogue - The topic on managing food loss and waste in Kenya links the food producers and consumers who are all involved in agriculture at either farm production, processing and marketing and policy levels. - The complexity of Food loss and waste in Sub Saharan Africa is that there is not much data and evidence to the extent of food loss among small holder farmers. It is also assumed that there is no food waste since most of the population is pro poor. The reverse is true. The proportions of food loss and food waste almost equal except no data/evidence is available - The dialogue was seeking to link different actors and stakeholders in the food industry and remove silos that limit them to their experiences but rather seek wholesome solutions - The dialogue built on helping the stakeholders seek solutions for their own problems rather than seek external expertise but rather identify problems affecting food systems

### HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

As above.

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

- The topic should be relevant to the audience. - The topic should provoke and catalyse discussions - Convene an audience that is diverse but also involved as stakeholders in the industry ( for an online audience, will help avoid teaching moments, that could be boring/repetitive to others) - Seek an industry authority ( change agent) to help drive interest

# 3. METHOD

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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

### DISCUSSIONS ON ACTION TRACK 2: SHIFT TO SUSTAINABLE CONSUMABLE PATTERNS IN KENYA

#### Action 2: Food loss and waste

#### Background:

Contrary to SDG Goal 2: Zero Hunger, food insecurity and malnourishment plagues hundreds of thousands of Kenyans every day. An estimation of one in three Kenyans (1 in 3) is food poor which translates to 14.5% of the population and one in four Kenyan children under five years (1 in 4) have stunted growth (Source). Kenya is facing increasingly complex food and nutrition security problems and producing and providing food is a power game that its smallholder farmers are losing.

Due to this complexity, the long-term sustainability of its food system and its resilience to shocks (and unexpected events) depends on a wide range of local and global drivers. For Kenya's food systems to provide food security, the food supply needs to be stable both in availability and affordability including through price stability.

One of the primary inefficiencies of the global food system is food loss and waste. Food loss happens in various parts of the value chain. Some crops are destroyed in the field before ever making it to market. Other crops are harvested and then spoil on the way to market. Consumers contribute to food waste every time someone goes grocery shopping and throws out fruits and vegetables before eating. It is estimated that almost 30 percent of the world's agricultural land is devoted to producing food that will never even be eaten because of these inefficiencies. Minimizing food loss can help to increase the amount of food that reaches the market.

### ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Governance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Women & Youth Empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trade-offs
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate

## MAIN FINDINGS

### GAPS, OPPORTUNITIES AND BARRIERS IN FOOD LOSS AND WASTAGE IN KENYA'S FOOD SYSTEMS

Break out session 1: Which gaps exist in our food system that contribute to food loss and wastage?

- International markets collapse from factors such as pandemics, e.g. COVID-19 or other factors leading to reduced demand of fresh produce from the international markets thus the farmers are left with produce they can't sell.
- Farmers engaging with brokers instead of having standing contracts with exporters can also leave them in the lurch if the brokers do not secure the promised markets.
- Attack by pests and diseases at the farm level leading to high post-harvest losses.
- Lack of cold-chain and other required storage facilities at production level thus the produce goes bad.
- Contamination of milk during milking, transportation or bulking leads to spoilage thus milk loss.
- In the farms, farmers not follow guidelines offered in technical assistance such planting timing- i.e. requirement to plant seeds within one weeks of collection of seeds , instead they keep the seeds and plant later on, even after couple of months. This also leads to wastage of food, as the produce will flood the market due to lack of planting coordination.
- High cost of Kenyan produce (due to high production costs) in the international markets leads to low demand of the produce thus what is not sold goes to waste.
- Exporters not sticking to their commitment to the farmers to sell the contracted amount of produce (VegPro fir instance uses the excess produce for the production of bio-energy and the generated power is even sold to KenGen).
- There is a need to strengthen food systems from the grass root level, improving the capacity of the farmers and this will help reduce food loss and wastage
- Food safety is not taken seriously by the farmers especially when it comes to meeting the international standards and requirement on the food production systems such as use of pesticides. If these are not followed, there is a high rejection rate of the produce which then goes to waste.
- Poor adherence by farmers to international markets requirements.
- Limited or low value addition of the exported produce.
- Lack of supporting policies and strategies on export of value added produce and poor regulatory environment.
- Lack of certification systems for export produce.
- Poor local, national and international market access for all agricultural products. The challenging marketing environment does not favor or support farmers.
- Low government support to the food system supply chain.

Break out session 3: Potential barriers in food loss and pathways to addressing them

Barriers identified

- Limited funding. Only 4 % of the national budget goes to the agricultural sector in Kenya and 10% in Uganda yet it's the mainstay of the two countries' economies. This affects investment into food storage systems such as silos and other off farm activities.
- Technology: Donors and governments focus on investing in interventions that enhance technology at farm level mainly in cereals and horticultural crops and little is done for off farm activities with processors, manufacturers and consumers. In addition, governments have not fully promoted innovations around local technologies especially for cereal crops and existing storage facilities are not affordable which greatly affects the shelf life of the products in local and export markets.
- Regulation: Governments have not fully enforced use of the right innovations and standards aimed at promoting reduction of food losses at farm and market levels. For example, all the players in cereals and potato value chains in Kenya should be mandated by law to use the newly recommended storage bags and embrace use of silos.
- Uncoordinated value chain actors. There is a gap by the actors to better understand market specifications, requirements and standards to inform their investment activities while dealing with post-harvest handling challenges. Also, focus is majorly on farm level activities to enhance production and aggregation and little is done by transporters, processors and food manufacturers to support reduction of post-harvest losses, storage and understanding consumer needs.
- Low community involvement. Most interventions funded are not contextualised, and there is a mismatch between community needs and solutions provided to address food losses for example the solar driers provided by a UNDP project in Nakuru county and other 7 counties are not functional.

Pathways identified

- Improve coordination. Currently, bodies such as KEPSA, ACEA, ASNET and farmer organisations are in place. They need to be strengthened to provide consultative input to improve advocacy, production and strengthening capacities of their members to invest in systems that reduce post-harvest losses.
- Rollout the warehouse receipt system initiatives. This government initiative has worked so well in the cereal sector and should be replicated to other industries in Kenya. Interventions were informed by a food assessment report conducted in 2012 whereby out of 37 million bags of cereals produced, 12% ended up as waste. Interventions promoted were geared towards increasing access to skills in post-harvest handling, access to financial services and reliable markets.
- E-commerce. Focus on programmes that support start-ups whose aim is reducing post-harvest losses and scale up.

## 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 - 1/3

Break out session 3: Potential barriers in food loss and pathways to addressing them  
Barriers identified

- Limited funding. Only 4 % of the national budget goes to the agricultural sector in Kenya and 10% in Uganda yet it's the mainstay of the two countries' economies. This affects investment into food storage systems such as silos and other off farm activities.
- Technology: Donors and governments focus on investing in interventions that enhance technology at farm level mainly in cereals and horticultural crops and little is done for off farm activities with processors, manufacturers and consumers. In addition, governments have not fully promoted innovations around local technologies especially for cereal crops and existing storage facilities are not affordable which greatly affects the shelf life of the products in local and export markets.
- Regulation: Governments have not fully enforced use of the right innovations and standards aimed at promoting reduction of food losses at farm and market levels. For example, all the players in cereals and potato value chains in Kenya should be mandated by law to use the newly recommended storage bags and embrace use of silos.
- Uncoordinated value chain actors. There is a gap by the actors to better understand market specifications, requirements and standards to inform their investment activities while dealing with post-harvest handling challenges. Also, focus is majorly on farm level activities to enhance production and aggregation and little is done by transporters, processors and food manufacturers to support reduction of post-harvest losses, storage and understanding consumer needs.
- Low community involvement. Most interventions funded are not contextualised, and there is a mismatch between community needs and solutions provided to address food losses for example the solar driers provided by a UNDP project in Nakuru county and other 7 counties are not functional. The community does not have the required skills to operate the equipment provided to them.

Pathways identified

- Improve coordination. Currently, bodies such as KEPSA, ACEA, ASNET and farmer organisations are in place. They need to be strengthened to provide consultative input to improve advocacy, production and strengthening capacities of their members to invest in systems that reduce post-harvest losses.
- Rollout the warehouse receipt system initiatives. This government initiative has worked so well in the cereal sector and should be replicated to other industries in Kenya. Interventions were informed by a food assessment report conducted in 2012 whereby out of 37 million bags of cereals produced, 12% ended up as waste. Interventions promoted were geared towards increasing access to skills in post-harvest handling, access to financial services and reliable markets.
- E-commerce. Focus on programmes that support start-ups whose aim is reducing post-harvest losses and scale up their operations to address conventional challenges. This can be done through incubation support, promoting matchmaking businesses, increasing access to funding and technology.
- Promote innovative renewable sources of energy – e.g. solar.

### 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

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



## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/3

Break out session 1: Which gaps exist in our food system that contribute to food loss and wastage?

- International markets collapse from factors such as pandemics, e.g. COVID-19 or other factors leading to reduced demand of fresh produce from the international markets thus the farmers are left with produce they can't sell.
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- Food safety is not taken seriously by the farmers especially when it comes to meeting the international standards and requirement on the food production systems such as use of pesticides. If these are not followed, there is a high rejection rate of the produce which then goes to waste.
- Poor adherence by farmers to international markets requirements.
- Limited or low value addition of the exported produce.
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- Lack of certification systems for export produce.
- Poor local, national and international market access for all agricultural products. The challenging marketing environment does not favor or support farmers.
- Low government support to the food system supply chain.

### 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 - 3/3

### 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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <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**

### **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
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### **KEYWORDS**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <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 |

# CORRECTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR CHANGES

Title UNFSS Independent Dialogue on Food Loss and Waste in Kenya

Date 30/08/2021

<https://www.farmafrica.org/latest/news/post/981-unfss-independent-dialogue-on-food-loss-and-waste-in-kenya>

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **UNFSS Independent Dialogue on Food Loss and Waste in Kenya**  
<https://www.farmafrica.org/latest/news/post/981-unfss-independent-dialogue-on-food-loss-and-waste-in-kenya>