

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Thursday, 8 July 2021 10:00 GMT +02:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Sustainable Food & Tourism Value Chain and Local Natural Resources – Mountain area
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Ms. Ermira Gjeci, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/22297/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/22297/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Member State
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Albania

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

93

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18      8 19-30      38 31-50      46 51-65      1 66-80      0 80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

57 Male      36 Female      Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

41	Agriculture/crops	4	Education	1	Health care
0	Fish and aquaculture	3	Communication	1	Nutrition
16	Livestock	3	Food processing	8	National or local government
0	Agro-forestry	0	Food retail, markets	0	Utilities
1	Environment and ecology	4	Food industry	0	Industrial
0	Trade and commerce	1	Financial Services	10	Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

14	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	0	Workers and trade union
0	Large national business	0	Member of Parliament
2	Multi-national corporation	10	Local authority
0	Small-scale farmer	16	Government and national institution
2	Medium-scale farmer	0	Regional economic community
0	Large-scale farmer	3	United Nations
11	Local Non-Governmental Organization	0	International financial institution
2	International Non-Governmental Organization	1	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
0	Indigenous People	0	Consumer group
5	Science and academia	27	Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

Principles of engagement under UN Food systems sub-national dialogues have been respected. The mountain region of the dialogue and the key economic sectors has been highlighted in the invitation letter/email. This dialogue consisted of the presentation of local food systems issues along with the 5 Action Tracks, by addressing the challenges in that region, by discussing interlinkages between the 5 Action Tracks, on policies and actions. It was also stressed that through the dialogue discussions people have an opportunity to get their voice heard at the national policy level and also in the international forums. All involved stakeholders were invited and encouraged to take an active role in the discussions. Participants were given the opportunity to listen to each other. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development led the sub-national dialogue supported by the UNRCO and FAO Albania. The objective of the Dialogue was to understand local sustainable food systems and to exchange perspectives on local food systems – know challenges in food production and consumption in Albania, what is working well and what are the challenges. A large number (93) of national and international participants representing governments, businesses, farmers, organizations, academia, civil society as well as university students representing the next generation of sustainability leaders, have been together to define the current status of our local food systems from the perspective of the healthy and sustainable consumption and discuss the challenges and areas where the next steps on the short and long term are needed. In addition, interested people participated in the live broadcast on the official YouTube (<https://youtu.be/NbqTSGMXOgc>) 74 people viewed the recorded video and live stream.

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

Dialogue emphasized listening, honesty and open-mindedness. The Chatham House Rule of non-attribution encouraged participants to engage in frank and open discussion with the inclusion of respective stakeholders (with a gender-sensitive and participatory approach). Due to the broad range of participants, all main aspects were reflected. Every participant was allowed to express their opinion either directly or through discussion in the zoom chat/inbox. Every comment, opinion is reflected. The sub-national Dialogue consisted of 2 sessions. The first one was the introduction of the 2021 UN food systems Summit and objectives of the Sub-National Dialogue; the second one was focused on national food systems. The 4 thematic Discussion Topics (•1: food, nutrition, and health and • 2: sustainable consumption and production - SDG12 • 3: equitable livelihoods and value distribution •4: resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stresses) were formulated in the form of short, ambitious statements, to be realized up to 2030. During the second session, four facilitators presented these topics and led the discussions addressed through questions.

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

All stakeholders and actors should participate in the sub-national dialogue; moderation and presentation of all action tracks should be presented in a clear language by presenting them from a local/regional perspective. In a complex, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder discussion, it is critically important to emphasize to the participants that there is no right or wrong answer or opinion and that everyone's voices and opinions count. This will ensure healthy discussion and richness of opinions and ideas. Be sure to give participants ample opportunities for questions and answers and make good use of the chat/inbox functions to provide opportunities for all participants to express their views-comments- questions.

# 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

The Dialogue three /Sub-national Dialogue has been organized for mountain area in Albania (Kukes, Puke, Malesi e Madhe, Lezhe, Korce, Permet, Gjirokaster, Diber, Berat, Vlore, Librazhd) based on key sectors such as Agro Tourism, Fruit trees (including nuts), Viniculture, Beekeepers, Aromatic & medicinal plants, Livestock/small ruminants, Traditional food). The Dialogue was organized under the concept "an extensive exploration everywhere". The dialogue brought together 93 participants from the private sector, government, development partners, civil society, academia and research center, small and big-scale farmers, etc. who were involved either directly or indirectly in implementing or supporting the food and tourism value chain; local natural resources.

It consisted of the presentation of local food systems issues along with the 5 Action Tracks, by addressing the challenges in that region, by discussing interlinkages between the 5 Action Tracks, on policies and actions.

Five Action Tracks has been conducted by 4 facilitators. The presentations introduced the concept, listed some of the entry points and guided the contextual solutions.

The presentations aimed at creating an open and trusted atmosphere among participants so that everyone has a voice. We followed the conversation by noticing who is taking the floor being a radical listener.

Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all.

- Food security and nutrition challenges and the population groups most affected;
- The availability and accessibility of healthy and nutritious diets to all population groups;
- Main dietary patterns in the country. Any specific concerns with dietary patterns and diet-related non-communicable diseases;
- Policies and initiatives to ensure food systems lend themselves to providing nutritious diets for children and adolescents;
- Policies or initiatives in place to promote healthy diets and better nutrition, such as integrated school meals, nutrition, education, regulation of advertising and marketing of certain foods not conducive to healthy diets to improve the nutritional value of food, and food labelling;
- Food safety policies and control systems in place to assess the main sources of foodborne diseases and food safety;
- Main challenges regarding animal diseases, plant pests and diseases, and preventive management and surveillance systems.

Action Tracks 2 and 3. Sustainable consumption and production

- Policies, initiatives and the raising of awareness among the public and private-sector stakeholders to prevent and reduce food loss and waste along the value chain;
- Short value chains that respond to consumer demands, providing diverse foods at an affordable price;
- Policies to prevent land degradation; management of crop yields and the use of pastureland;
- Sustainable and efficient use of water in irrigation and food processing; water quality assurance;
- Analysis to understand the overall environmental impacts of the main agrifood value chains;
- Investment in sustainable agricultural techniques;
- Functioning food supply chains with adequate infrastructure for value addition, storage, processing and distribution;
- Adoption of measures to strengthen the sustainability of food supply chains;
- Reviewing support to agriculture, including subsidies, with a view to facilitating the green transition.

Action track 4. Advancing equitable livelihoods and value distribution

- Access to finance and credit for operators in the food and agricultural sector.
- Social protection measures such as input subsidies, innovative insurance solutions to manage extreme weather and climate variability risks on crop and livestock production.

Action track 5. Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stresses

- Measures in place to ensure that the country food systems are prepared to avoid, mitigate and/or adapt to vulnerabilities, shocks and stresses;
- Emergency plans ready to be operationalized to address food safety, animal health and plant health threats and outbreaks;
- Food assistance programmes in place, when needed, to contribute to food security and nutrition.

## 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

- Agriculture sectors need more financial support to create a credible database thus helping farmers (potential beneficiaries) and insurance companies to build trust and engage in the insurance business in agriculture as well.
- Ruminants or livestock, in general, is a risky business and will remain such as long as the veterinary system will not function well.
- Missing of an initiative to reduce food loss at the farmer level
- There are many stakeholders in the food system that has remained out of monitoring their safety. Such actors are slaughterhouses, dairies, livestock markets. The number of stakeholders engaged in such activities is high, their business, in general, is small and therefore their income is small making it difficult to imply food safety norms during their activity.
- Food safety is a very complex challenge that comes from both the supply and demand sides.
- Climate change effects are risking the food system and the agriculture producers are exposed to a series of risks.
- In EU countries insurance companies demonstrate an interest in the agriculture sector as it is protected in a way from subsidies. In the Albanian context, the government cannot provide the same number of subsidies but can in a way offer financial education for farmers among others.
- Agrotourism is an important tool to integrate social, environmental and economic aspects of food systems, and promote local and organic products.
- Small farmers produce for local restaurants or hospitality structures in their localities. Their products are hardly monitored under the food safety system.
- Involvement of the civil society sector in policy performance along with the public agencies is of utmost importance. It is vital to actively communicate with the direct stakeholders of the food systems such as producers, unions, associations, NGOs, scientific circles, donors, international organizations, higher educational and vocational institutions, local municipality representatives, etc.
- The farmer should be considered a profession. It needs to be certified in order to have a full and accurate list of them so they can be trained and informed for any kind of activity they perform in the fields or else.
- Promoting value chain development involving food production linked to tourism, beekeeping and medical aromatic herbs – inter alia for rural women's economic empowerment
- Finding ways of using the innovative approach "0 Km" for agro tourism, schools etc. (sharing economy, school food and nutrition etc.)
- School food programs like the one implemented by FAO in Albania have to be replicated in different areas, to improve childhood nutrition.
- The main food losses in Albania are at the stage between the farmer and first buyer. However, food waste is increasing rapidly also at the retail level.
- Small farmers have limited opportunities to create profit margins with common value chain products.
- Farmers in general and small ones in particular, cannot afford the losses from natural disasters which bring them below the affordable level of business recovery.

### ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/4

### Action track 1.

1. The Albanian legislation framework should be adopted /amended based on EU legislation
2. Consumer awareness & education to choose a safe food, including reading and understanding label specifications.
3. Increasing knowledge on farms for family, small and medium production (agricultural and livestock)
4. Increase and improve the Food Safety System from farm to fork, including pastures, use of chemical fertilizers & pesticides, uses of allergic substances, Global G.A.P. Certification, etc.
5. Improve food safety policies and control systems to evaluate the main sources of diseases & hazards, and communicating effectively with key stakeholders.
6. Improved legislation on animal diseases (including zoonosis), pests and plant diseases, and preventive management and surveillance systems
7. Natural resources should be carefully managed such as energy-saving by introducing solar energy as an alternative source, saving water during food operations, technological water recycling, etc.
8. It must stand up and become operational in the management system of food waste so that products that abound in the markets as well as close to the date of expiry to be provided for people in need.
9. Financial education of all actors is a must.
10. Establishment and operation of national and EU support schemes for agriculture sectors (including livestock) in hilly and mountainous areas.

### ACTION TRACKS

✓	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
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### KEYWORDS

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✓	Innovation	✓	Data & Evidence
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		✓	Environment and Climate

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/4

### Action Tack 2 and 3

1. Develop better-coordinated value chains
2. Support the development of short food chain initiatives
3. Build the capacity of farmers in nature-friendly production practices
4. Capacity development of extensive service agents
5. More collection and analysis of data related to the agricultural sector
6. Establishment of insurance markets for agricultural activity
7. Analyze the costs of a healthy diet, in such a way as to prepare policy and financial support packages.
8. Analyze the impact on the environment including deforestation. The link between the sustainable food system and the environment. Impact on Green House Gas (GHG) emission
9. Need to analyze the pesticides and chemicals in the agriculture production
10. The fostering of regional, short food chains, of mainly none or low-processed food is seen as another key factor that will contribute to the reduction of food loss and waste. With short supply chains, the produce is usually fresher when reaching households. The fewer the processing steps in the chain, the lower food losses tend to be.

### 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

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/4

### Action Tack 4

1. For those who may need to leave farming, as they cannot move their small farms to commercial family farms, provide alternative support through off-farm diversification and other social protection measures.
2. There must be equitable opportunities for all through equal chances in production, ownership of resources and improved agricultural technology for women and the young generation.
3. Policymakers to provide a roadmap for equitable distribution of production resources, which will ensure equitable access to resources.
4. Farmers and farmer groups to work together to strengthen the value chain of all commodities to improve the food system thereby ensuring sustainability.
5. Coordination of stakeholders to make sure that a quality and unadulterated input meets standard requirements are used in producing healthy and safe food for all.
6. Increased productivity through access to quality inputs and value addition, which translates to better income for women and youths.
7. Women and young people receive tailored training and capacity building to respond, recover and build resilience.
8. Access to climate-smart technologies, structured markets and finance.
9. Innovation and use of ITC as an effective tool
10. Promote value chain linked to tourism

### 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

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/4

### Action Track 5

1. Conduct massive public awareness on the reality of climate change, its causes and effects on agriculture
2. Avoid deforestation and forest degradation
3. Promote agroecology techniques and practices
4. A multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder DRR National Platform should be established to advance national commitment to reduce disaster risk and increase institutional coordination, cooperation, and communication on DRR actions.
5. The veterinary service as an important part of the food chain has to monitor with high discipline the fulfilment of hygienic-sanitary-veterinary standards in production farms with a profile of meat, milk, eggs, honey, etc.
6. Protection of animals from infectious diseases, through the implementation of biosafety practices on farms, good animal feed treatment, implementation of food chain control for animals, implementation of requirements in milking, equipment, safe transport staff and certification of the veterinary product.
7. In a pandemic situation, the food systems must be adapted and implemented in accordance with the new conditions dictated by the emergency situation where the priority is to review the rules of conduct of staff with the requirements of personal and local hygiene, regarding the specifics of disease manifested pathogenicity, routes of transmission as well as their zoonotic character.
8. Farms with high productivity and risk in the market to be certified with ISO or HACCP, as these systems put them in monitoring and implementation of the traceability system.
9. Avian influenza affects food security and production. Affects food security because there are animal products that enter the industry food chain.
10. It's important the erosion control as well as the need to decrease desertification and more efficient utilization of water resources by using new technologies like drip irrigation etc.

### 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 type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Women & Youth Empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade-offs
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

N/A

### ACTION TRACKS

Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all

Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns

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### KEYWORDS

Finance

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