

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 1 April 2021 08:30 GMT +08:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Food Safety for Home-based Businesses
CONVENED BY	Industry Development & Compliance, FSQD, MOH Malaysia
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/22945/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Malaysia

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

694

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

Male

Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

216	Agriculture/crops	373	Education		Health care
	Fish and aquaculture		Communication		Nutrition
	Livestock		Food processing		National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
	Environment and ecology	105	Food industry		Industrial
	Trade and commerce		Financial Services		Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

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

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

Urgency. The engagement was organized to introduce the food safety holistic framework for home-based food businesses in Malaysia in regards to solicit inputs and insights for the identified Food System Summit lever of change – women's empowerment and finance. Complexity. The food supply chain is one of the most complex yet important logistics programs that we need for sustainability. As technology improves, and the need for safe, and fresh food increases, our ability to understand the unique hurdles and come up with effective solutions may be the only way of keeping our food supply fresh and safe to consume. In total, 694 participants from various stakeholders attended the engagement.

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?

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 was conducted in 2-ways communication and turned out to be a good session. The participants were already familiar with the topic as it was earlier been promoted and shared in social medias. Zoom became the go-to platform during the pandemic and also a good way to collect a variety of views. The engagement allowed people to provide input and assistance that is important to the policy-making body in ways that utilize their ideas and lived experiences.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

During the global pandemic COVID-19, the advantages of online food businesses were obvious, as it facilitated public access to prepared meals and help those food businesses to keep operating. Mostly, food is being prepared in home kitchens (home-based food) and offered on social media such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram etc.

This unregulated home-based food through social media/online platform may put the public at risk because it is unlikely would meet the food safety standards. In order to ensure the home-based food businesses meet the same food safety requirements as other regulated food premises, this engagement was focused to give policy advice for further implementation and assist participants in identifying preferred areas of inputs or concerns that are important to the policy-making body in ways that utilize their ideas and lived experience.

The goal of the engagement was that all people at all times have access to sufficient quantities of affordable and safe food products. Achieving the goal means increasing the availability of safe and nutritious food, making food more affordable and reducing inequities in access to food.

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

Main findings are :

1. There are demands from the public and consumers for relevant authorities to take proactive measures and regulate home-based food businesses to prevent untoward incidents.
2. Registration of the home-based food businesses is the least requirement to be made to ensure the traceability in the food supply chain if the food caused problems, for instance, food poisoning.
3. More engagement on education and awareness through on line platform to be carried out to outreach more parties due to pandemic Covid-19.
4. Most home-based food business operators are housewives and youth or those doing it to complement their household income on a full-time or part-time basis
5. Identified barriers are the limitation of hands-on information when the engagement was conducted through online platform.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

A vision for safe home-based food businesses will transform food systems and achieve the goal of ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all. The ambition of the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit is to launch a collective journey of transforming our food systems to give us the best possible chance of delivering on the SDG 2030.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There's a positive divergence of opinion within the participants. Home-based food businesses use their home to prepare and handle food for sale. Regardless the size of the business, they have to meet the same food safety requirements as others. And during the global pandemic Covid-19, many people especially the housewives (women) and youth started this home-based food business to earn money from home. There should be some consideration for modification of food safety guidelines and materials for them.

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