

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 10 June 2021 09:30 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	From food, nutrition, and health, to equitable, resilient and sustainable food systems in Albania
CONVENED BY	Ms. Ermira Gjeci, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/23459/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	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

82

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18

8 19-30

50 31-50

22 51-65

2 66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

23 Male

59 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

4 Agriculture/crops

2 Fish and aquaculture

8 Livestock

1 Agro-forestry

6 Environment and ecology

2 Trade and commerce

5 Education

3 Communication

6 Food processing

0 Food retail, markets

2 Food industry

2 Financial Services

6 Health care

Nutrition

8 National or local government

1 Utilities

1 Industrial

25 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

1 Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

11 Local Non-Governmental Organization

6 International Non-Governmental Organization

1 Indigenous People

10 Science and academia

2 Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

2 Local authority

21 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

14 United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

13 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 dialogues have been respected. The multi-stakeholder engagement was enabled and food systems were discussed from the perspective of all stakeholders. As food systems are complex and covering all three main dimensions (economic, social, and environmental) systemic approach was used. Participants were given the opportunity to listen to each other. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development organized the First National Dialogue on June 10, 2021 supported by UNRCO and FAO Albania. The objective of the Dialogue was: -to understand sustainable food systems; and the Albanian context of food and nutrition security - to exchange perspectives on the national and local food systems – know challenges in food production and consumption in Albania, what is working well and what are the challenges. A large number (81) of national and international participants representing governments, business, 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 food systems from the perspective of the healthy and sustainable consumption and discuss the challenges and areas where the next steps on short and long term are needed. The participants were invited considering the sectors, stakeholder interest groups, profile and engagements of international partners. In addition, interested citizens participated in the live broadcast on the official YouTube. 45 people viewed the recorded video and livestream.

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 given an opportunity to express their opinion either directly or through discussion in the chat box. Every comment, opinion is reflected. The National Dialogue consisted of 2 sessions. The first one was the introduction of the 2021 UN food systems Summit and objectives of the National Dialogues; 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?

We kindly advise our experience: all stakeholders should participate in the dialogue; moderation and presentation of all action tracks should be presented in a clear language and to be focused on the situation of the food system in the country and main challenges that the country is facing. Considering that the food systems are complex, involves multisector, multi-level multidisciplinary stakeholders. The selection of the Action Tracks should represent the situation and the challenges of the country.

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 action tracks 2 and 3 were treated together in one single action track with the title “sustainable consumption and production”)

Entry points presented and discussed under each Action Track:

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

- Food security and nutrition challenges (hunger/undernourishment, overweight/obesity, micronutrient deficiency, child stunting, etc.) 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 (e.g. consumption of highly processed, high-calorie and low-nutritional-value food items; high consumption of salt, sugar and trans-fatty acids) 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 (especially those targeting children and adolescents), regulation of breast milk substitutes, promotion of breastfeeding, food reformulation and large-scale food fortification (such as flour fortification and salt iodization) 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 risks and effectively manage and communicate with key stakeholders on these risks;
- Main challenges regarding animal diseases (including zoonoses), 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 public- and private-sector stakeholders to prevent and reduce food loss and waste⁹ along the value chain.
- Short value chains that respond to consumer demands, providing diverse foods at an affordable price;
- Nature and extent of land use for agriculture and other purposes;
- 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, including greenhouse gas emissions, nutrient losses, pesticide emissions, soil and water quality degradation, and estimated biodiversity loss due to food production.
- Investment in sustainable agricultural techniques (e.g. organic cultivars, agroecological practices).
- Functioning food supply chains with adequate infrastructure for value addition, storage, processing and distribution; connection and cooperation among various actors.
- Adoption of measures to strengthen the sustainability of food supply chains (circular economy, food formulation), resource use efficiency, eco-friendly food packaging;
- Reviewing support to agriculture, including subsidies, with a view to facilitating the green transition.

*Action track 4.Advancing equitable live hoods 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 (e.g. weather index insurance) and climate variability risks on crop and livestock production. For those who may need to leave agriculture, as they cannot transition their small farms into commercial family farms, provision of alternative support through off-farm diversification and other social protection measures.

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

- Measures in place to ensure that country food system 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 program 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

1. It is necessary to establish strong partnerships between government, local partners, businesses, farmers, academia, education etc.
2. Multi-stakeholder dialogues and needs analysis are necessary to understand the motivations and needs of all stakeholders along with the food systems.
3. Accelerating economic growth and reducing rural/urban disparities, therefore, requires modernizing the Albanian agro-food processing sector. This can be done via deeper integration into regional agro-food value chains, particularly in those sectors (e.g. fruits, olives, and viniculture) for more rapid export growth.
4. Improvements in business and investments climates.
5. Invest in skills to increase financial literacy in small/family farms (particularly among women)
6. Improve farmers resilience by investing in adaptive and mitigation needs to climate change
7. Developing from farm to school schemes
8. Support the expansion of digitalization and ITC.
9. Reduce barriers for small farmers and other particular groups in agriculture through the provision of up-to-date information and adaption of measures.
10. Give attention to emerging food insecurity – households prone to food insecurity – flexible safety nets at the municipal level
11. Promoting value chain development involving food production linked to tourism, beekeeping and medical aromatic herbs – inter alia for rural women's economic empowerment
12. Promoting local product development – agricultural extension and other rural entrepreneurship/advisory e.g. branding, name recognition and identification with geographic region
13. Awareness and education with school children using school food nutrition programs and from farm to school program
14. Include sustainable food systems in the strategy for agriculture and rural development and
15. Study of the cost for health nutrition to support policy on the sustainable food system.
16. Establishment of a food safety surveillance system associated with the traceability system
17. Vocational and educational trainings programs /curricula
18. Using the innovations ways like as 0 Km, sharing economy, school food and nutrition etc.
19. Agrotourism is an important tool to integrate the social, environmental and economic aspect of food systems, and promote local and organic products.
20. Sustainable use of natural resources (Land, water, forest, pastures, fishery) as an important tool for a sustainable food system.

ACTION TRACKS

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KEYWORDS

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/4

Action track 1.

1. Establishment of a food safety surveillance system associated with the traceability system
2. Analysis of malnutrition related to per capita income of Albanians
3. Good nutrition in schools using direct products from farmers and producers with a so-called "from farm to school" program. This is a continuation of the School food and nutrition program which has started its implementation in Albania
4. Promotion of local Albanian producers
5. Educating the consumer about healthy choices for the foods he consumes
6. To align the health strategy with sustainable food systems
7. Add an action plan for non-communicable disease and foodborne diseases.
8. Improve the legal framework on labelling, drafting a national plan for food and nutrition as well as a national guide for healthy food consumption.
9. Risk assessment to harmonize and become an essential part of a sustainable food system.

ACTION TRACKS

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

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

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/4

Action Tack 2 and 3

1. The need for an analysis of the environmental, economic and social impact of a sustainable food system
2. Importance of Food Lost and Waste and need to analyze where we have losses, at what levels and why we have losses.
3. Based on this analysis, to design actions to intervene in the food system
4. It is needed to have a close interaction with the producers reaching the contractual relation
5. To 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
6. Need to analyze the costs of a healthy diet, in such a way as to prepare policy and financial support packages.
7. Need to analyze the pesticides and chemicals in the agriculture production
8. Vocational and educational trainings programs /curricula
9. Agro tourism and short value chain as a tool for SFS

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance
<input 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 - 3/4

AT4

1. Strengthening the role of women for better adoption of climate change (Gender Clime Resilience)
2. Role and partnership with the private sector
3. Innovation and use of ITC as an effective tool
4. The need for certification and traceability in production systems, especially related to tourism.
5. Analysis of different approaches (0 Km, sharing economy, school food and nutrition etc.) for adaptation and use in the Albanian situation
6. Use of natural resources for sustainable food systems, especially those related to soil degradation, erosion, forests, and pastures, as one of the important natural resources, which have a contribution to the development of tourism, protection from erosion, but also contribute to the economic aspect and green economy.
7. Promote value chain linked to tourism

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
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
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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

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/4

1. The link between the strategy for agriculture and rural development and sustainable food systems
2. Plant and animal health emergency plans oriented towards sustainable food systems
3. The importance of ecological and biological agriculture related to the use of pesticides, and the use of the good practice. Linkages with organic agriculture, tourism and consumer health.
4. Impact of climate change, the role of agriculture, forestry and fisheries
5. The important issue is the need for water. Water also has a major impact on biodiversity
6. Use of Micro insurance model in case of natural disaster especially floods that occur in Albania every year.

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
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KEYWORDS

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input checked="" 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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

NA

ACTION TRACKS

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

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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

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