

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Tuesday, 22 June 2021 19:00 GMT +02:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Bites of Transfoodmation - Retreat
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Ludovica Donati, project coordinator BoT; Gianna Angermayr, Laurence Jeangros and Martina Bonazzi, scientific collaborators at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations organisations in Rome
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/26285/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/26285/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	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

50

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

33

19-30

13

31-50

4

51-65

66-80

80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

20 Male

30 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

3 Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

1 Livestock

Agro-forestry

16 Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

6 Education

1 Communication

1 Food processing

3 Food retail, markets

Food industry

1 Financial Services

Health care

1 Nutrition

10 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

10 Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

6 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

0 Small-scale farmer

1 Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

2 Local Non-Governmental Organization

1 International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

11 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

10 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

4 United Nations

1 International financial institution

3 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

11 Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The organizing team has selected a group of young and motivated individuals already (or ready to be) projected into the realm of food systems and provided them with a safe space to discuss, openly and creatively, the way forward for a more sustainable and resilient future. As such, both the organizing team and the participants understand the need to act with urgency and are committed, either personally or professionally, to contribute to the vision, objectives and outcomes of the Food Systems Summit. The BoT participants aim to be agents of change and wish to contribute to the outcome of the FSS. David Nabarro's intervention during the first BoT virtual meeting clearly inspired them and helped them better understand the process behind the Summit. In the organization of the Dialogue, the BoT organizing team made sure to embrace multistakeholder inclusivity by inviting participants from different countries, backgrounds and sectors, including but not limited to civil society, government, academia and the private sector. It must be pointed out, however, that the Dialogue has been organized and carried out with a focus on youth and on the European and Middle Eastern – Mediterranean regions. The facilitators were all part of the organizing team and has been briefed with attention to ensure the creation of a safe space conducive for dialogue based on respect and trust. A number of 'principles' for discussion were shared with the participants at the beginning of each session to foster this sense of inclusivity, mutual respect and trust. These included the need to complement the work of others, build on what the person before said, challenge only when you have an alternative to propose, and finally seek compromise in order to reach a unifying message.

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

The Dialogue is part of a broader set of workshops and events organized by the Bites of Transfoodmation team that aim to take into account and discuss different aspects of food systems, recognizing their complexity. The Dialogue thus re-grouped and focused on all topics addressed during the previous seven workshops, namely narratives and advocacy; knowledge, connectivity and digitalization; habitats and proximity; diversity of food systems; renewed traditions and empowered culture; affordability and true value of food. A certain share of time has been dedicated to the unifying power of potentially divisive concepts. The Dialogue aimed to develop Lines of Action to implement the vision developed in previous workshops in the form of a manifesto, taking a holistic and systemic approach to food systems transformation. Yet, as the very name Bites of Transfoodmation suggests, the idea was to propose some 'bites' of change which are coherent and reflect the vision of the group. The principles of inclusivity, respect and trust were reflected in the design and roll-out of the Dialogue and have been an essential feature of the entire Bites of Transfoodmation process. The participants have not only been included in all stages of the project in a transparent and inclusive way but have been at its very center. A real sense of trust has been created along the way, and this could be witnessed during the Dialogue as the participants felt free to express their views openly, even when these did not necessarily reflect the views held by others.

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

Thanks to the fact that there is a team working exclusively on the Bites of Transfoodmation project, a lot of information and knowledge sharing is able to take place both among the participants, and between the participants and the organizing team. The organizing team has ensured that various different avenues and spaces for exchange were created, both during and in the preparation phase of the Dialogues. This has definitely contributed to building trust as well as to keeping the momentum, engagement and commitment of the participants high. Our advice to other Convenors would be to make sure, if possible, that there is a strong point of contact between the Dialogue participants and the Convenors. This allows for participants' feedback and continued interaction after the workshops and Dialogue so that the ideas can be further refined, and knowledge further shared. Furthermore, it seems to be a valuable approach to choose participants with a diverse background in order to permit exchange about different realities, while working towards compromise and unifying elements.

# 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

In the weeks preceding the retreat, the Bites of Transfoodmation team organized different consultative meetings with the participants of the retreat to assess their expectations regarding the event and more generally concerning the BoT community. Most participants' expectations were to create valuable connections and strong relationships between the members but also to find common ways in which the vision of the BoT Manifesto could be shared and implemented through various initiatives or projects.

As in previous workshops, the focus of the retreat focused on the six paragraphs of the Manifesto which were combined for the occasion to create 3 groups as follow:

- Life habits (Paragraphs 1 and 4): This group worked on rethinking more sustainable life habits through new narratives by advocacy and incentives that help develop renewed traditions thanks to intergenerational initiatives.
- Habitats and well-being (Paragraphs 2 and 6): This group worked on reorganizing habitats and careers based on determinants of health and wellbeing, embedding the concept of true values of food and affordability. The group focused on norms and cities.
- Food economy revisited (Paragraphs 3 and 5): This group worked on responding to the demand for personalized diets by reorganizing food economy on the basis of diversity, proximity, and interconnectivity.

### 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

During the retreat the participants were asked to focus on the topics assigned to their group and to think or develop projects and solutions in order to concretize the vision of the Manifesto. The challenging task asked to the participants was to approach their ideas in a systemic way. To this aim, a set of 7 concrete lines of Actions were developed and participants were asked to consider them for each of their projects or ideas.

Lines of Action aiming at transforming food systems towards:

### 1. Well-being

Supporting initiatives that aim at wellbeing for all forms of life. In terms of food systems, it implies assuring that the true value of food is accounted, encompassing personalized diets and social determinants of health.

### 2. Governance (all)

An evolution of soft and hard norms (labelling, marketing, food safety, land tenure, labour rights etc.) towards accountable, right-based and equal food systems. This implies policy reforms, a change in power relations and an acknowledgement of the nature of food as a public good.

### 3. Habitat

A re-transformation of the physical structures sustaining food systems to ensure accessibility and avoid food deserts. It implies rethinking the way we produce, consume, urbanize, transform, and transport.

### 4. Innovations

Fostering innovations -understood in a broad sense- that pave the way towards a new circular and regenerative social economy, based on the true cost of food and social proximity.

### 5. Interconnectivity and knowledge

An improved use of interconnectivity, data and information systems to form the glue of the new social economic realities through, among others, hubs, e-commerce, shared knowledge and new toolkits.

### 6. Education and knowhow

A stronger focus on next generations and an alignment of education and knowhow to the realities of complex systems, allowing to understand food as a system, through among others the development of new curriculum and cross-sectoral careers, and the normalization of intergenerational exchanges.

### 7. Finance

Addressing financial and other economical investments or incentives to initiatives, projects and businesses that lead the way to the renewed food social economy. Change should be incentivized through risk analysis, blended finance and ESG at impact funds for example.

Besides, members of the BoT had the opportunity to witness the interventions and interact with four high-level speakers during the retreat: Michael Fakhri, UN Special rapporteur on the Right to Food; Gilbert Hougbo, President of IFAD; David Nabarro, Special envoy on Covid-19 and FSS Dialogues Senior Advisor, and; Christian Frutiger, Head of Global Cooperation at the Swiss Agency for Development.

Michael Fakhri stressed the need to take the Right to Food as an entry point in adopting a food systems perspective. He explained that the right to food is about people having agency in their food system. Food sovereignty should be sought as people should be able to define their relationships with their territory, community, land and resources. Mr. Fakhri alerted the community that the implementation of their vision could result in some who gain and some who lose and raised a few concerns regarding the Manifesto, in particular regarding the use of digitalisation and technology and their embedment in existing power dynamics.

Second, Gilbert Hougbo stated that transformation requires disruption. He mentioned that younger generations are in a particularly good position to question and disrupt, as they have the energy and capacity to challenge authorities and put in question the status quo. He incited the group to be proactive and not to wait for everything to be clear before taking actions. The President stated that according to him the added-value of the Manifesto is the fact that it is the vision of an independent group who is apolitical and yet politically aware and able to come up with a unifying vision.

Third, David Nabarro delivered a motivational and emotional message to the community on how to build around a clear pathway, to be aware that change is a process, to stick to their values and to move forward with humility.

Finally, Christian Frutiger highlighted the importance of considering some key topics such as the One Health approach and the true value of food -even though its complexity in implementation- and suggested to focus the energy of the group on collective actions.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/3

### Life Habits

The group dealing with the topic “life habits”, bringing together two paragraphs of the Manifesto “Narratives and Advocacy” and “Renewed Traditions and Empowered Cultures”, worked on rethinking life habits in a more sustainable way. The idea was that through advocacy and incentives, new narratives could enable renewing traditions thanks to the development of intergenerational initiatives. The group highlighted the need to change our life habits in order to allow for a shift in consumption but also through the provision of information.

The group started brainstorming by presenting projects that showed concretely how a change in habits could be reached. Some examples were the “keyhole garden” (a decentralized zero loss compost system), the “grocery helper” (guiding the consumer to choose healthy and environmental-friendly food), the “show me your fridge” (helping the consumer to use leftovers in the fridge by proposing some recipes). After discussions, the group agreed that the most important concept needed to shift our mindset was to improve food education. This includes making sure that people (children, teenagers, adults, and elderly) understand where the food comes from, how it is produced, what its nutritional values are, in order to make informed decisions. During the Retreat the group developed a concept of “food education” (provision of information), introducing concepts of “intergenerational education” and “community-driven co-production” (activities). The group thought of different manners to make sure that food education was accessible to all age-ranges, considering circularity of food and zero-waste production, and ensuring social awareness and responsibility of choices.

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### KEYWORDS

- |                                     |                           |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Finance                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Policy                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Innovation                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Data & Evidence         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Human rights              | <input 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 - 2/3

### Habitats and Well-being

Group 2 focused on "Habitats & Well-being" and had the task to support initiatives that aim at wellbeing for all forms of life. In terms of food systems, it implies assuring that the true value of food is accounted, encompassing personalized diets and social determinants of health, and re-transforming physical structures to ensure accessibility and avoid food deserts. It implies rethinking the way we produce, consume, urbanize, transform, and transport. The first session helped to identify the different perspectives of the group members and enabled successful communications. Then a first brainstorming took place on ideas of projects where Bites of Transfoodmation acted as a common narrative framework as well as a social platform/movement, always letting participants concretize and value the uniqueness of their personal projects. This allows the projects to share a similar trajectory while maintaining their own specificities. The goal of reconnecting urban and rural areas, and to make cities and societies more auto sufficient in terms of food and water and more sustainable in terms of planning was central for most of the projects proposed by the groups such as "the circular pizzeria"; the "wellbeing hubs" (worldwide hubs at the neighbourhood scale, which physically embody a narrative, a set of ideas and focus on collective intelligence to promote dialogue and intergenerational exchanges); the "water innovation hubs" (hubs where local habits and actions can be positively influenced, by educating people on how to have more practical, innovative and sustainable water management solutions); the "future agriculture hub" (a platform facilitating exchanges between producers and consumers) or the "pre-urban tracks" (trucks transporting and storing products but also displaying techniques such as vertical farming and hydroponics).

Another crucial point stressed by the group was the accessibility to healthy food in refugee camps with the idea to set some areas dedicated to vertical farming. The aim of this project is to enable refugees to grow and sell their own food, not only focusing on microgreens but also fruits and vegetables. This would allow for more personalized diets as well as allowing refugees to benefit in economic terms, for the food produced in the camps would be then sold in a food market at its real price/true value.

The group ended in thinking that the BoT could be the soil that allows individual projects to grow, where diversity such as nationalities, cultures, and realities are always taken into account reaching a sort of diverse community/global village with the common aim to transform the future food systems. Two major points have been raised by the group: how should the projects be showcased? And how could projects be funded? An idea that was proposed is to have a booklet collecting and showcasing the different projects and financing them through crowdfunding. Moreover funds could be received on investment or donation basis, depending on the will of the person lending or investing. In that case, people giving money should have the possibility of seeing/following where the money is going. Yet, empathy should be practiced on both sides. The idea would be that people on the receiving end should be able to decide whether they want to receive money in the form of charity or loans. As a final remark the group highlighted the importance of assessing and understanding the needs of the local contexts where the projects are being implemented, but even more to empower and include the local communities to ensure the long-term sustainability of these projects.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/3

### Revisited food economy

Group 3 focused on « revisiting food economy » and had the task to work on responding to the demand for personalized diets by reorganizing food economy on the basis of diversity, proximity, and interconnectivity. The first session helped identify some critical notions related to this subject, such as the centrality of information, trust (transparency) and education. Issues such as greenwashing, holding stakeholders (incl. consumers) accountable, realising a human right approach, but also consumers' behaviour were identified. Then a first brainstorming took place on ideas of projects bringing to life this revisited economy. The group decided to focus on three main themes: one on education with one project in Switzerland bringing children to the farms and one in Egypt organising cooking classes between locals and refugees; one on trust with a platform that would bridge producers and consumers virtually and when possible physically, using a financial mechanism rewarding sustainable production and consumption; and one on transparent supply chain through the use of a positive ranking index for ranking the transparency of firms and through a “subsidies for dummies” project that would communicate to consumers and producers about the subsidies. In the following sessions, the group developed these projects further and began to find synergies with the projects from the other groups.

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## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

This physical meeting came after months of virtual meetings where the focus was on what unites us and not what divides us in order to find a unified vision to implement. The result has been that for the first time there were no real areas of divergence between the participants, only different ideas on how to succeed in implementing the proposed projects and initiatives.

### ACTION TRACKS

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# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

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## RELEVANT LINKS

- **Bites of Transfoodmation Manifesto**  
<https://transfoodmation.com/the-event-of-bites-of-transfoodmation-roma/manifesto/>