

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Monday, 5 July 2021 14:00 GMT +00:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Malabo Montpellier Forum: Policy innovations for food systems transformation in Africa
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	H.E. Ambassador Josefa Sacko, African Union Commissioner ARBE; Dr Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson Akademiya2063; Prof Joachim von Braun, Director ZEF University of Bonn; Roy Steiner, Senior Vice President The Rockefeller Foundation
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/27259/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/27259/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte D'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia (Republic of The), Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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

150

## 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

Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

Livestock

Agro-forestry

Environment and ecology

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

Large national business

Multi-national corporation

Small-scale farmer

Medium-scale farmer

Large-scale farmer

Local Non-Governmental Organization

10 International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

40 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

15 Government and national institution

3 Regional economic community

5 United Nations

3 International financial institution

10 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?

The dialogue under the Malabo Montpellier Forum was organized by considering the principles of engagement. It served as a platform for learning from and sharing of good practices in policy and program design and implementation. In addition, it provided opportunities to representatives of different African countries to exchange and share their experiences. The dialogue served as a space for busy executives to exchange directly on issues of strategic importance in a context that is free from domestic pressures.

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

The dialogue discussed what works on the ground, how and why, to inform and guide the discussion and exchange among the participants, a large share of whom were policymakers and decision-makers and the highest level of government. The sessions gathered African countries that have made the most progress in building a sustainable food system namely Ghana, Malawi, Morocco, and Rwanda to share their experience with other countries for the purpose of mutual learning and spreading of best practices. This reflects the commitment to the summit by empowering stakeholders to participate in the preparation of the Food Systems Summit. The dialogue also embraced multi-stakeholder inclusivity as it gathered African governments representatives, Non-governmental Organisations, farmer organizations, and other actors and partners including the private sector and development partners. The dialogue also complemented the work of others by contributing to informed decision-making based on scientific evidence and practical experience from on the ground.

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

# 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 dialogue under the Malabo Montpellier Forum shared and discussed the findings of a report titled "Connecting the Dots: Policy Innovations for Food Systems Transformation in Africa". The dialogue focused on the challenges and threats faced by the entire food system. These challenges and threats include a growing (and rural) population, rapid urbanization, changing dietary patterns, a persistent gender gap, climate change, environmental degradation, and conflicts. Drivers and opportunities to build a sustainable food system were also discussed. There is a multitude of opportunities available to raise productivity, provide affordable and healthy diets, create decent and profitable employment, and strengthen the resilience of farmers and other food system actors. The report and the discussions at the dialogue then focused on the experience of some African countries in building a sustainable food system in terms of institutional, policy and programmatic interventions. The case study countries were Rwanda, Ghana, Morocco, Malawi. The representative of the different African countries other than the case study countries had opportunities to share their countries' successful experiences and current challenges including ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all and building resilience to vulnerabilities shocks and stress.

### 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

The key finding from the dialogue is consensus around the following actions agenda that countries need to domesticate:

- Ensure multistakeholder and multisectoral coordination across government departments in order to reflect the interconnectedness of food systems transformation: African countries that have shown a measure of success in transforming aspects of their food systems show that well-coordinated national-level policies can facilitate success. Working with stakeholders from research institutions, civil society, the private sector, and development partners further ensures that there is a common vision and that policies have “buy in” across interventions, therefore making them more impactful.
- Facilitate evidence-based and guided experimentation and innovation of policies and accelerated science capacity for technical solutions supporting broad food systems change: There is neither one single policy nor a unique mix of strategies that can deliver change across all objectives of a food system. Rather, policymakers will be required to forge new pathways to build sustainable, resilient, and prosperous food systems that deliver healthy and nutritious diets, improve livelihoods, and protect the environment.
- Institutionalize monitoring, evaluation and learning for impactful planning and implementation: Even with disruptive innovations, systemic change must be an iterative process. While agile institutions have responded quickly to emerging threats and opportunities it is also essential that institutions integrate a framework for learning, in order to enhance long-term planning and implementation. Learning goes beyond accountability; it also includes a reflective environment and one that is open to failures, if only to learn from them. As policymakers transition into the use of a food systems approach, they will be required to be both introspective and outward looking. In this respect, a central role is played by reliable monitoring, evaluation, and data systems.
- Integrate food systems transformation into long-term national vision, growth and development agendas: Food systems, their challenges, and their opportunities are not homogenous across countries. Each country must prioritize its specific needs and objectives within a framework that affords it the creativity to innovate as new knowledge, ideas, processes, and systems are developed and become available. At the same time, a food systems transformation is unlikely to be rapid. Policymakers must therefore seek to elevate the transformation process beyond the impulses of political administrations. Integrating food systems transformation (including specific targets) into the long-term national vision can help transcend politics and make the transformation a national priority. This in turn builds certainty for investors and for other stakeholders who are engaged in the process; it also enables the continuity of the work required to transform food systems at the national level.
- Enhance CAADP indicators to reflect the complexity of food systems: This report identifies selected indicators from the CAADP Biennial Review by which to assess a country's vision and its progress toward food systems transformation. Policymakers, however, now have an opportunity to lead a continent-wide strengthening of the CAADP process. While the CAADP has undoubtedly focused national efforts in transforming agricultural sectors, it is now timely to adopt a more systemic view of food systems transformation and to go beyond the CAADP's current ambition of agricultural growth and transformation. Additional indicators are needed which better measure and reflect food systems' interconnectedness with the environment, social inclusion, nutrition and public health, youth employment, and income generation. There is an opportunity to align these additional indicators with national commitments under the various related international agreements including (but not limited to) the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

### 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

There were two round table discussions of 45mins each. During the discussions, the representatives from different African countries highlighted the importance of urgently ensuring multistakeholder and multisectoral coordination across government departments in order to reflect the interconnectedness of food systems transformation. In addition, a lack of information on how to coordinate actions was highlighted, which shows the importance on knowledge generation for evidence based policy. Another finding was for governments to ensure coherence in terms of policy design, by integrating food systems transformation into long-term national visions, growth and development agendas. Furthermore, there is an urgent need to update Africa's agricultural science, research and innovation systems to make them fit for purpose. This includes the funding allocated and available for science and innovation. Finally, governments must consider a more consistent approach to evaluating the quality of education and training across countries and disciplines. Facilitate linkages between universities, agricultural research institutes, national extension services, the private sector, and users such as farmers, processors, and consumers. In fact, a robust science, research, and technology system that encourages interdisciplinary approaches will be at the heart of addressing the multifaceted challenges facing Africa's food systems such as improving crop and animal productivity and nutrition, tackling pests and diseases, improving storage technologies and methods, raising food safety standards, adapting to and mitigating climate impacts, or developing innovative solutions to deliver humanitarian aid to communities in conflict.

### 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

## 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
- Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Data & Evidence         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Human rights              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Governance              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Trade-offs              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            |                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Environment and Climate |



# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

---

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **Malabo Montpellier Panel food systems report**  
[https://www.mamopanel.org/media/uploads/files/MaMo\\_Panel\\_food\\_systems\\_report\\_July\\_2021.pdf](https://www.mamopanel.org/media/uploads/files/MaMo_Panel_food_systems_report_July_2021.pdf)