

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Thursday, 13 May 2021 17:00 GMT +02:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	High Level Dialogue at CFS 47 - Gender
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Agri-Food Network (IAFN) and the Private Sector Mechanism of the Committee on World Food Security
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/2893/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/2893/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Italy

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

112

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

33 Male

79 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

12 Agriculture/crops

2 Fish and aquaculture

9 Livestock

2 Agro-forestry

8 Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

3 Education

2 Communication

3 Food processing

Food retail, markets

6 Food industry

8 Financial Services

Health care

Nutrition

16 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

41 Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

2 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

2 Large national business

11 Multi-national corporation

6 Small-scale farmer

4 Medium-scale farmer

2 Large-scale farmer

1 Local Non-Governmental Organization

11 International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

2 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

20 Government and national institution

3 Regional economic community

12 United Nations

7 International financial institution

17 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

12 Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The event was organized to convene between 100 - 150 guests to ensure the most diverse exchanges. The theme has been selected as a cross-cutting issue to the Summit and to generate some conversation outcomes across the Action Tracks. Each participant was encouraged to engage in a multi-stakeholder process and for each discussion to touch on the following points: a) Scope the problem that is the subject of their breakout room b) Identify ways to solve the problem c) What actions in next 3 years will have greatest impact on the discussion topic d) How will it be possible to tell if these actions are being successful

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

After the opening remarks and fire starter panel, participants were divided into sub "tables" in their own breakout rooms to discuss their topics and report back to the main room. There was a moderator and rapporteur in each breakout room to ensure everyone had an opportunity to be heard and voice opinions. Points of divergence were heard and noted in an open and productive manner.

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

1) If breakout rooms are a part of your event, ensure to have greeters in each breakout room to ease the start of the conversation and ensure guests are not left alone in a room. 2) Arrange for your rapporteur forms to follow the FSDs gateway feedback form to ease the reporting back and ensure the principles of engagements are adequately covered.

# 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

On May 13 2021, 129 leaders gathered in a virtual High Level Dialogue as a contribution to the cross-cutting theme of Gender in preparation for the Food Systems Summit. The need to address gender issues in a holistic manner that ensures all areas and issues affecting women in food systems are necessary to achieve transformation. For example, addressing the lack of access to finance does little if we do not concurrently address the challenges of tenure rights. Policy makers and stakeholders must work together in a coordinated approach to tackle these issues and ensure systemic change.

Gender has been identified as a cross cutting lever of change for the Food Systems Summit. Communities of interest were grouped around the following areas during the dialogue:

- Human rights
- Leadership and women's voices
- Proper maternal services
- Nutrition for the first 1000 days
- Women's movement and agency
- Education programs
- Agricultural extension
- Financial services
- Access to markets and value addition
- Entrepreneurship training

Some challenges explored include:

- Scoping and identifying ways to solve problems related to gender that will lead to transformation in the food system
- Actions required in the next three years to have the greatest impact on the different issues affecting gender
- Measures of success of the required actions

Key issues which kept resurfacing were:

- Policies: Governments, organizations and financial institutions need to incorporate gender considerations into their existing policies.
- Accountability: Beyond having policies and guidelines in place, governments, organizations and financial institutions must have accountability mechanisms in place to ensure these policies are implemented and adhered to.
- Financing: Investment from both the public and private sector is required to ensure gender programs and initiatives are implemented at scale to reach more women.
- Partnerships and collaboration: governments, private sector, communities and other stakeholders including men need to work together to address the issues affecting women.
- Data and metrics: Identifying metrics for measurement for programs is important and will contribute to availability of data, measuring success, identifying problems and improving programs. Quality disaggregated data should be built into programs before developing metrics for programs.
- Tools/Innovation: Programs and initiatives need to provide the necessary tools to enable access. This includes investing in digital tools and emerging ag technologies.

### 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 UNFSS draft game changing solutions has some major gender gaps which should be addressed urgently. The process will benefit from the inclusion of women as special ambassadors in the action tracks to strengthen the gender elements in the game changers.

- Human Rights

Access and control are local problems but require global tools to help women's voices to be heard. Overcoming deeply entrenched systems will require creating channels for dialogue, not for women to just speak but men to be trained to listen, to be fair partners and 'champions of enlightenment'. Localised dialogues with women in their communities are needed so as to create coherence and to ensure that the discussions are transformed into action and policy. It is also important to understand what empowerment means in different communities. Local engagement is required to understand local perceptions.

- Leadership and Women's Voices

There is need to continue creating more opportunities and spaces for women to be represented in leadership positions. Current initiatives must be scaled and encouraged and to bring more women on board. There is need to promote the implementation of existing laws and conventions, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women, UN Commitment to end child marriage by 2030. Institutions need to commit to setting gender-based targets, including quotas in boardrooms and organizational hierarchy and in hiring of personnel.

- Proper Maternal Services

Over half a million women die annually due to maternity complications. Therefore there is need to understand the linkages between women's empowerment, decision making power and maternal health care. Better information and messaging for vulnerable groups is required. Better investment, better education, more health workers and nutritional services are needed to cover these vulnerable populations. A system approach that involves schools and educational departments can help integrate maternal health education into curriculums.

- Nutrition for the first 1000 days

A mother's nutrition during pregnancy and the nutrition a child receives in the first two years of life are vitally important influences in determining good health both now and into the future. These first 1000 days of life set us up for good health across our lives. Public health and nutrition education (also using local knowledge) should be incorporated into school feeding programmes which are also a point of entry into communities. There is need to stimulate and increase public private partnership for collaborations to improve nutrition & health.

- Women's Movements and Agency

Women's movements must be all encompassing ensuring women from all walks of life actively participate, from the small-scale farmer to the CEO. There is need to create a collective agenda that integrates smaller movements and unifies them into larger ones. More spaces to demonstrate the importance of women roles need to be created. Policy decisions and regulatory frameworks need to lock in legal protections for women for land tenure, access to capital, and health and nutrition of women and infants.

- Education Programs

Training and education have to be part of all identified solutions and embedded in other areas. Too often, solutions and financing are delivered without training and skills building. There is need for training platforms on multiple topics including for technical/home management and income generating projects without gender barriers/attribution. New approaches are needed to ensure education programs address the needs and priorities of both men and women across value chains. Governments need to dedicate budgets to enable women's access to education and rights.

- Agricultural extension

Agricultural extension services have not attached much importance to reaching women farmers or women on the farm. There is a lack of data that effectively informs who, what, and where things have to be done. In addition, there is lack of communication to transfer knowledge, from scientific presentations into local languages and easy-to-understand language. There is need for holistic approaches that foster access to extension services by women. Private-public alliances that promote the extension of knowledge and new technologies to women must be fostered. Consideration should be given to who should approach women farmers, depending on country, customs, religious contexts.

- Financial Services

Real transformation in financial services will happen when gender becomes an integral part of the finance discussion rather than being a separate issue. There is need for governments, development partners and private financial institutions to relook and rework their policies to propel equitable financing for women farmers. These should range from assigning loans quotas for women, providing financial education to both recipients and providers of financial services providers, as well as providing the tools and infrastructure to make financial services accessible to women. Governments need to also create incentives for financial institutions by creating and providing co-financing systems.

- Access to Market and Value-addition

Gender smart programs require a holistic approach based on comprehensive ecosystem of global and local partners. There is need to have women representation along the entire value chain and not just at the production level. Women farmers must be supported to foster entrepreneurship in a holistic way, facilitate access to productive farming resources, information, technology, capacity...

## ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/10

- Human Rights

Gender is a cross-cutting of issue and should therefore be addressed as such. Women's issues should not be dealt with in isolation.

Policies must be gender-sensitive policies and allow women to have access and control of resources. They should be developed using transformative approaches that allow for the engagement of all stakeholders at a community level where gender norms are deeply entrenched.

The role of the private sector needs to be recognized and leveraged to advance women's empowerment.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/10

### • Leadership and Women's Voices

Socialize the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women that asserts that all women have a right to hold political offices, own property among a host of other recommendations.

Institutions should commit to gender-based targets for leadership positions in the same way the UN requires meeting nationality quotas.

The inclusion of women, especially young women in key discussions at global level policy platforms such as the CFS and the UNFCCC is critical.

Women and men in leadership positions should be intentional about mentoring women and respecting their contributions. This calls for men to stand up for women, as with the example of "Sofagate" at the EU Council.

### 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 - 3/10

- Proper maternal services

Lack of effective maternal health care services can undermine progress on broader human development.

Well-designed cash transfer programmes that aim to be sustainable and have adequate resourcing can improve maternal health.

Complementary awareness raising activities are critical for changing behaviour and attitudes at individual, household and community levels.

Countries should invest in better education, more health workers, nutritional services and messaging for vulnerable groups.

For example, Village Nutrition Volunteers - conduct community nutrition activities and nutrition education; help establish home or community vegetable gardens; formulate village nutrition action plan; prepare master list of wasted, stunted, under- and over-nourished children, pregnant and lactating mothers.

Cash transfer program – there are good examples of cash transfer programmes that can be scaled up. For example, in the Philippines, women receive monetary support of 500 pesos (10 USD) per month per household and 300 pesos per school child. Beneficiaries must fulfill two conditions: 1) pregnant women have access to pre- and post-natal care and be attended during childbirth by a trained professional; 2) Parents must attend family development sessions which include topics on responsible parenting, health and nutrition.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/10

### • Nutrition in the first 1000 days

Promote high-quality protein foods to improve health outcomes in the first 1000 days. This can be done by improving women's access to and control over livestock by women. With the focus on women, there is much higher likelihood that this protein nutrition will also reach the rest of the family.

School meals and school nutrition programs can be powerful for children to gain early knowledge on nutrition and health, knowledge that also trickles down to families.

Partnerships and collaborations between companies and trusted local NGOs should be stimulated to work on programs related to the theme of adolescent nutrition and nutrition for the first 1000 days, while acknowledging the sensitivities around the topic related to marketing of infant foods.

Public Health and nutrition education (also using local knowledge) should include educating men on the importance of adolescent, maternal and child nutrition, and also on available maternal services.

### ACTION TRACKS

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### KEYWORDS

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Finance                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Policy                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Innovation                | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Data & Evidence         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Human rights              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Governance              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Trade-offs              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            |                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Environment and Climate |

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 5/10

- Women's movement and agency

Partnerships are key in creating more spaces for women's representations. There is need to create a collective agenda that integrates smaller movements and unifies them into larger ones.

Local, national and internal women's movements need to be strengthened to integrate food and farming issues and the role of women in agriculture.

Women's movements have a role to play in ensuring accountability of different actors, especially in higher levels e.g. companies, policy makers, regulatory authorities and in unlocking opportunities for women.

### ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 6/10

### • Education Programs

Facilitate girls' access to go to and stay in school and promote continuing education and vocational training. Girls' education from an early age is particularly important in addition to women's education.

Formalized mentorship and educational programs for girls tied to other social engagements such as sports and health. These have potential to build confidence and agency.

Multi-stakeholder networking platforms should be established to facilitate the sharing of experiences and knowledge. Other actors (e.g., private sector/business) should be included as an opportunity for mentorship and promoting shared experiences/ career knowledge.

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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 - 7/10

- Agricultural extension

Extension is top priority for elevating women. Communication of existing policies, programs and opportunities in easy, understandable language and in clear messages to women farmers is important.

Improved roads into every village will go a long way in ensuring women farmers have access to markets and services so that they are to sell their agriculture products and to buy much needed production inputs.

Gather and standardize gender disaggregated data (sex, age, all categories) so that there is objective and scientific information to work with.

Women should be encouraged to transfer technology and know-how among themselves. For example, the Global Farmer Network has a 'No Till Strategy' that has farmers working with fellow farmers to transfer knowledge and skills.

### 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
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### KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input 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 - 8/10

### • Financial Services

Policies to encourage gender representation in financial services should be adaptive in nature, promote innovation and provide overall direction, capture data and provide a method of evaluation of results.

There is need to identify non-tradition assets that can be used as collateral as well as working with communities and financial service providers to ensure that they open women's ownership of assets.

Tools and infrastructure to aid access to financial services should be scaled to reach more women. These include digital savings, digital financial platforms emphasizing women inclusion and payments for environmental services schemes through direct mobile payments.

Education programs need to target both financial providers and recipients. Farmers need to understand the financial services business as much as financial services providers understand theirs.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 9/10

### • Access to Market and Value-addition

Promote the establishment of women cooperatives which could help with market access. Small scale farmers produce smaller quantities, cooperatives can play a critical role in helping small-scale farmers to bundle their produce together.

Trade facilitation approaches need to be examined from a gender perspective, reducing trade barriers will have positive impact on women. Tariff escalation keeps developing countries from participating in global supply chains. This keeps women producers from entering the marketplace.

Support coaching and training to increase effectiveness of women's engagement in production and along the food chain. In some countries and for specific products, women are important in agricultural production, unfortunately women are less represented further along the value chain.

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### KEYWORDS

- |                             |                         |
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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 10/10

### • Entrepreneurship Training

Mentorship and coaching through programs such as bootcamps (e.g. Goldman and Sachs training for women; Erasmus program for entrepreneurs) provide an opportunity for women to learn business skills as well as interact and network with other women entrepreneurs, encouraging and creating a community of practice. Such models should be supported and replicated to allow more women to benefit from the coaching and mentorship.

Trainings also need to bring men on board to expose them to the challenges that women face and promote a culture of understanding and break down barriers.

Government initiatives should make it compulsory for academic institutions (universities, ag extension services) to offer women-specific training for farmers, students and business owners. Private sector members such as the PSM should make commitments to do voluntary training in their areas of interest.

Follow up action should include creation of a portfolio of evidence and action, to encourage peer learning, share lessons learned and scale up. A mechanism to make it easier to access the examples, peer learnings and KPIs are required.

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## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

- UNFSS dialogues process should be inclusive and promote the active participation of women and in particular women's groups representatives.
- Gender is a cross cutting issue in all the SDGs and there is need to give it prominence across sectors to make sure women are not left behind.
- Gender disaggregated data will facilitate not only the understanding of actual issues women face but would also be very useful to direct attention and efforts into areas that require support.
- Mainstream women participation in financial institutions and facilitate women's access to the finance by communicating gaps and opportunities.
- Schools are important entry points to nutrition education and girls/ women's education is key notwithstanding the region or area in the world.
- Malnutrition at birth, due to lack of nutrient reserve of the mother (that is already developed in adolescence) is very difficult to correct. So, timely interventions are key and increasing focus on adolescent women is welcomed. Adolescent age is a key window of opportunity to intervene timely to ensure a healthy pregnancy and good infant health outcome that will last until later in life.
- Getting the voices of SMEs and women entrepreneurs into the dialogues, especially the country-level dialogues, within the process of the UNFSS is critical.

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# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

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## ATTACHMENTS

- **HLD Gender Report PDF**  
[https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/HLD-Gender-Report\\_FSD-Gateway-format\\_Final.pdf](https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/HLD-Gender-Report_FSD-Gateway-format_Final.pdf)

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **IAFN Website for recap videos**  
<https://agrifood.net/>