

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 6 July 2021 16:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Bridging scientific and indigenous peoples' knowledge for sustainable and inclusive food systems
CONVENED BY	Dr. Katharina Löhner (Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research - ZALF), Dr. Harry Hoffmann (Welthungerhilfe - WHH)
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/29115/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	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

41

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

5

19-30

25

31-50

9

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

18 Male

23 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

10 Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

Livestock

2 Agro-forestry

2 Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

2 Education

Communication

3 Food processing

Food retail, markets

Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

15 Nutrition

2 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

5 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

0 Local Non-Governmental Organization

10 International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

20 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

2 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

9 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The Dialogue was organized as contribution to the Food Systems Summit and to the elaboration of pathways to food systems transformation contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Speakers presentations highlighted the complexity of food systems. Diverse speakers were invited to to identify actions across the system together with potential synergies and trade-Offs; Speakers were of different gender and represented diverse cultural and professional perspectives. A space was created defined by respect for the other that allowed invited speakers and other participants to present their views, comment, and openly discuss with each other.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Discussion made very visible the complexity of Food Systems and the urgent need to improve true multi-stakeholder dialogue that not only recognizes need for collaboration but manages to collectively and creatively find pathways for better bridging different knowledge systems.

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

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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 focussed on bridging indigenous and scientific knowledge for sustainable and inclusive food systems. The event addressed concepts for a joint understanding of integrating indigenous knowledge to science and vice versa, general problem statements on effects when indigenous food systems are marginalized, and different case study examples from Bolivia, India, Mali and Tanzania how indigenous knowledge was integrated in scientific approaches. Based on diverse inputs, strategies on better linking the different knowledge systems for more inclusive and resilient food systems were discussed.

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

Science led modern agriculture and food systems do not integrate indigenous knowledge to great extent despite the debates on bridging the gap between science and indigenous knowledge and bridging the knowledge systems requires high level political and knowledge integration.

Indigenous food systems are generally diverse, healthy, nutrient rich and produced in a sustainable way. In spite of global challenges including rapid urbanisation, loss of indigenous languages, land grabbing and forced displacement of indigenous people, indigenous food systems can provide important knowledge and technologies on and for sustainable, healthy and affordable food systems. To optimize the potentials of traditional knowledge systems however, a bottom-up approach is essential, based on a dense network of research institutions embedded within their local contexts.

Traditional indigenous cultures were highly adapted to their environment and their knowledge evolved through centuries of human-nature interaction which was subsequently lost also to colonization. Building new paradigmatic frameworks of knowledge, dialogue and ecology, where scientific and traditional knowledge can take advantage of the richness of the biocultural food heritage is important to achieve the nexus of science and indigenous knowledge.

Current forest management policies, for example, do not integrate the traditional indigenous knowledge and thus leads to the loss of traditional food system knowledge and human-nature harmony. Generally, policy reforms need to aim at building local knowledge and support collective resource management.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

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 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

Main outcomes:

- The importance of careful research designs actively integrating indigenous knowledge including active involvement of all relevant stakeholders.
- Integration of local research institutions in food system research approaches.
- Transfer of research outcomes including indigenous knowledge should be disseminated via advisory and extension services. However, the style of transferring knowledge (bottom-up vs top down) is rather challenging in keeping participatory principles.
- value of nutrition education to enhance the value/recognition of indigenous food systems

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The spectrum of participants and speakers overrepresented academia, NGOs and governmental organizations. This imbalanced representation and neglect of indigenous people and knowledge was also key point of discussion. As one example, the UNFSS was discussed as also here indigenous people or farmers are under-represented to non-existent in main activities.

Further exploration is also needed on how to involve extension services in more inclusive and multi-directional ways to prevent them being/becoming agents of scientific knowledge.

Another point of discussion that remained open for debate was on decolonialization processes and how they can possibly hinder or contribute to better bridging different knowledge systems.

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/One_Pager_UNFSS_2021_Loehr-et-al_06_07_21.pdf

RELEVANT LINKS

- **Leibniz Center for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)**
<https://www.zalf.de/en/Pages/ZALF.aspx>
- **University of Pretoria**
<https://www.up.ac.za/>
- **Welthungerhilfe**
<https://www.welthungerhilfe.org/>