

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 25 June 2021 11:00 GMT +05:45
DIALOGUE TITLE	"Nepal towards an equitable, resilient and sustainable food system"
CONVENED BY	Hon. Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli, Member, National Planning Commission
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/29199/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Nepal

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

109

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

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

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?

List of participants for the provincial food system dialogues was prepared and shared among the stakeholders to get inputs to ensure representation of diverse participation in terms of sector and disciplines, ethnicity and gender. Series of revisions and addition were made to ensure inclusive participation. The provincial dialogue has provided opportunities to engage participants from different stakeholder groups representing Government, academia, research, farmers' organization, civil societies and private sector organizations from different parts of the province.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Food System is complex and need to have deeper level of analysis that requires to set the background for the comprehensive understanding, analysis and looking for way forward. For that, systematic approach and procedures were followed. This was also helpful to ensure active engagement of the stakeholder. An organizing committee was formed representing key stakeholders to steer the overall process and technical committee to support technically. Further six Working Groups were also formed to work on specific action tracks and policy environments. In order to have the consistent process and facilitate the dialogues effectively, series of orientations were organized to the facilitators and curator of the event at the province. These orientations were locally adapted in the context based on the original contents of the Curator and Facilitators training organized by UN Food System Secretariat. All the sessions were led by government and supported by experts and key stakeholders in order to ensure ownership of outcomes and future commitments for the proposed actions for transforming the food system. During the dialogue, critical analysis of the provincial Food Systems was done to examine in terms of their potential causes/barriers, drivers and actions for the next 3 years. Participants stakeholders were actively engaged in different group discussion to interact, exchange and share ideas and actions respectfully for analyzing and improving Nepalese food system in general and provincial food system in particular. In order to have a meaningful dialogue among the participants and have a basic level of understanding on food system, UN Food System Summit, key issues related to food systems and provincial dialogue process among the participants, a participants brief was prepared and shared before the event. Further Nepali languages was used as medium of conversation to have active engagement of participants of farmers in the dialogues

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

Yes, we received feedback to further represent the private sector and entrepreneurs and farmers in the dialogues.

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

Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission (NPC), organized the provincial Food Systems Dialogue of Province 1 on 25 June 2021 on the theme Nepal towards an equitable, resilient and sustainable food system. Hon. Dr Krishna Prasad Oli, Member of NPC and National Dialogues Convenor delivered the welcome and opening remarks. Ms. Niru Dahal Pandey of Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoLMAC) and Provincial Dialogue Curator curated the dialogues.

Major focus of the dialogue was to engage stakeholders for a comprehensive exploration of food systems in Nepal as part of the process for the UN Food Systems Summit 2021. The specific objectives of the dialogue were to;

- raise awareness and promote public discussion on the food systems,
- examine current situation and identify key aspects of Nepalese food systems, such as the drivers, actions, pathways, and
- explore opportunities for food system to make it equitable, sustainable and resilient.

Total of 109 participants attended the event representing different stakeholder groups, background, institutions, and professions.

In order to generate focused dialogues and collect the specific inputs, participants were assigned to respective Action Track (AT) Groups after a brief opening session in the plenary. The AT coordinators, facilitators, co-facilitators, and rapporteurs facilitated the dialogue process and documented the discussion outcomes.

Each AT Group had proposition and reference questions to engage in dialogue and provide inputs as follows:

AT 1 Proposition: Increased agriculture productivity and develop sustainable food chain for affordable safe, healthy, and nutritious diet to improve levels of nutrition, ensure all people to be well nourished and healthy and achieve zero hunger.

AT2 Proposition: Enabling, inspiring and motivating people to enjoy healthy and sustainable consumption options; Slashing food loss and waste; and transitioning to a circular economy through advancing in technological, environmental, economic, social, regulatory, and institutional fronts.

AT3 Proposition: Protect natural ecosystems from new deforestation and conversion for food and feed production; manage sustainably existing food production systems; restore degraded ecosystems and rehabilitate soil function for sustainable food production.

AT4 Proposition: Developing inclusive and diverse food systems that contribute to the elimination of poverty and food and nutrition insecurity by creating jobs, raising incomes across food value chains; protecting and enhancing cultural and social capital; reducing risks for the poorest and increasing value distribution.

AT5 Proposition: Developing inclusive and equitable food systems to ensure that all people within a food system are empowered to prepare for, withstand, and recover from instability and participate in a food system that, despite shocks and stressors, delivers food security, nutrition, and equitable livelihoods for all.

AT6: Referring to the overarching legal document developed based on the constitutional provision, Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act (2018), is considered as a legal framework. Hence, this Act and related policies are the key to strengthen food system governance and accountability and transform food system that is resilient, equitable and sustainable.

Dialogue reference questions: Following 5 questions were presented to the participants to facilitate the dialogue:

1. What are the underlying causes/ barriers for achieving the stated proposition?
2. What are the key drivers of unsustainable food system?
3. What actions in the next 3 years will have greatest impact on the Discussion Topic?
4. How will it be possible to tell if these actions are being successful?
5. What are the role and responsibilities of the food system actors including those of the federal, provincial, and local Governments in sustainable food system transformation in Nepal?

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

MAIN FINDINGS

The provincial dialogue provided opportunity to engage participants from different agencies, sectors, and disciplines including the government, academia, researcher, farmers' organization, civil societies and private sectors from different parts of the country. During the dialogue, critical discussions were held to examine the provincial food systems to understand potential causes/barriers and drivers and generate ideas to decide bold actions for the next 3 years. Indeed, this will be further verified and refined after the feedback from the Provincial, and second and third national dialogues.

Five Action Tracks and one cross cutting lever of change were the Discussion Topics. Following the constitutional provision, cross cutting lever of change was selected as the Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act as a legal framework for the sustainable food system in Nepal. Hence, six groups rigorously discussed on these topics following the ATs propositions and reference questions mentioned in Section A above. Relevant officials of the Government of Nepal had chaired the groups, while the thematic experts from the government and non-government sectors had facilitated the discussions, and designated rapporteurs from different agencies had documented the discussion points. Whole exercise was concluded with big team efforts.

The dialogue also collected some learning to reflect impression and work further on as following:

1. Some participants were new to virtual meetings (attending the session using online platform to participate in specific groups);
2. Less no. of participation from industries and value chains (actors).
3. The issues were well understood by the participants, which were common for some of the ATs. Drivers of change and actions mentioned were also common to some tracks.
4. There was a common understanding among the working groups about the role and responsibilities of the three spheres of the government in Nepal, in terms of formulating policies, regulations, education, and their implementation. Participants suggested to draw clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of the three spheres of government.
5. There was strong commitment from the stakeholders to address the issues of access to food, nutrition, distribution and effective implementation of policies and regulations.

Overall, participants had actively engaged in different groups to exchange and share ideas and potential actions for analyzing and improving the Nepalese food system in general and provincial food system in particular. Some potential and emerging issues were identified and validated; the dialogue was also helpful in raising awareness and elevating public discussion on key food system issues and identify potential options and solutions for making food system inclusive, resilient and sustainable (refer Section C below).

ACTION TRACKS

✓	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
✓	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
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✓	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

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

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/6

Discussion Topic AT 1: Ensure safe and nutritious food for all

Context: The cereal grain availability is fluctuating due to variations in production; per capita availability has reached from 194 Kg (2001/02) to 237 Kg (2017/18); 48.2% households are food secure, whereas 10% are severely food insecure. Percentage of severely food insecure households are more in rural areas (11.7%) than in urban (8.8%), the percentage is highest in Karnali Province (17.5%) followed by Sudurpaschim (13%) and Province-2 (10.7%).

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition:

No focus on micronutrients; poor nutrition including breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices; many families do not have access to nutrient rich foods; poor and or inadequate understanding of three tiers of government with designated roles to enhance food system competence is also one of the major underlying causes.

Drivers of change:

- Low level of agricultural productivity and high pre & post-harvest losses.
- Land fragmentation, loss of biodiversity and existence of poor food diversity.
- Absence of good practices such as Good Agricultural Practices, Good Animal husbandry Practices.
- Use of unsafe water for irrigation, haphazard use of pesticides and chemicals and anti-microbial drugs.
- Inadequate roads for connectivity & storage facilities.
- Absence of Good Manufacturing Practices.
- Absence of infrastructures and facilities.
- Loss/ Erosion of local biodiversity and existence of poor food diversity.
- Low education and awareness level on the nutritive value of underutilized crops.
- Low awareness regarding the home-based solutions for the preservation of the nutrition of foods.
- Poor nutrition including breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices.
- Poor access to affordable and nutrient rich foods for many families.
- Ineffective coordination among the stakeholders involved in food value chains.
- Low level of awareness about the safe and nutritious foods.

Actions in next 3 years for greater impact:

- Creation of enabling environment and provide support for adoption of good practices.
- Strengthening of the food institution for the identification of mycotoxin and other harmful pesticides.
- Support to and motivate for the adoption of skills, knowledge and technologies.
- Development of roads/storage to facilitate the marketing of highly perishable commodities,
- Development of climate adaptive technologies.
- Emphasis on the development of formal food trading and distribution system.
- Diversify the production of food products and enhance their access.
- Enhancing skills and knowledge on household level food preservation.
- Creating awareness among the consumers about the quality food and balanced diet.
- Minimization of the occurrence of food borne diseases and contamination.
- Education and awareness raising programs for the consumption of nutrient rich foods.
- Formulating policies that promote the consumption of low-cost nutritious food products.

Options to assess the actions being successful

- Awareness on use of pesticides, chemicals, and drugs, and formulation of regulation to monitor quality.
- Effective implementation of food safety policy.
- Development and adoption of effective surveillance system.
- Harmonization of the food trade and distribution system and use of tracking and tracing system.
- Survey and monitoring of the access and consumption of safe, diversified, and nutritive foods
- Appropriate management of agricultural land.

Collaboration/Partnership:

- Prioritize the programs for increasing the production and productivity of nutritious foods at local level.
- Integrate food safety policy with agriculture and nutrition policy.
- Strengthening national research capacity on the pandemic.
- Prioritize effective Food safety and nutrition surveillance (in all the level).
- Prioritize Food innovation and food formulation.
- Preparation of emergency policy and action plan.
- Awareness raising programs on food safety and nutrition.
- Women empowerment at the local level (local govt).
- Multi-sectoral strategy for nutrition improvement.
- Distribution of nutrition card and nutrition allowance

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

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/6

Discussion Topic AT2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns.

Context: About 4.6 million people are food insecure in Nepal ; Prevalence of triple burden of malnutrition-under nutrition, overweight/ obesity, and micronutrient deficiency. Stunting, wasting and low weight in children contributing to 52 percent of child mortality; obesity among children and adolescents has increased by 29 times in the past four decades; women and children also suffer from some of the world's highest levels of vitamin and mineral deficiencies.

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition: Change in dietary pattern characterized by two-meal-rice (per capita rice consumption increased by nearly 70% in 50 years). Dietary shift towards unhealthy processed foods high in saturated and trans-fat, salt and sugar neglecting nutritious indigenous crop-based foods. Increase in fat intake in diet.

Drivers of change:

- Inadequate production and inconsistent distribution mechanism
- Inadequate road network and electricity distribution/development
- High post-harvest losses
- Poor quality management in Animal Food Supply Chain
- Inadequate adoption of modern agricultural technologies and skills
- Less or no adoption of Climate Resilient Agricultural system
- Lack of Emergency and disaster Preparedness
- No promotion and conservation of locally available nutritive foods
- Marketing promotion of unhygienic food products
- Lack of basic knowledge among the farmers on processing and storage
- Inadequate mechanism(s) to regulate the market for food products.
- Existence of subsistence production system
- Poor knowledge on the real market prices
- No access to the modern storage facilities and infrastructures
- Unemployment and inadequate budgetary resources for agriculture

Actions in next 3 years for greater impact:

- Enhancing the capacity of the farmers.
- Develop the low-cost storage infrastructures and their usage at the local level.
- Conserve local food crops/commodities and promotion of local seed banks.
- Encourage the establishment of small agro-based cottage and large processing industries
- Enhance capacity for adopting Climate Resilient Agricultural production systems.
- Establishing subsidized price shops for regulating/controlling prices.
- Strengthening/ Enhancing the capacity of agricultural markets
- Diversify the production of food crops based on ecological/geographical diversity
- Development of modern cold storage facilities.
- Establishment of processing centers at local level for local
- Promote breast feeding practices among the lactating women
- Promote and use the services of Nutritionist and Dieticians.
- Introduce agricultural education and nutrition at school level.
- Improve and expand road network and increase the access to electricity
- Development & implementation of effective M&E system
- Available agricultural commodity prices (of markets) using ICT
- Increase the production of raw materials required for agro-based industries
- Develop mechanism for maintaining buffer stock.
- Regulate the advertisement and promotion of unhealthy food products
- Promotion, awareness and marketing of local healthy food products

Options to assess the actions being successful:

- Effective Monitoring and Evaluation in the use of local storage facilities
- Assessing agro-based employment.
- Assessing the level of post-harvest losses of foods
- Assessing the accessibility of consumers in subsidized price shops
- Study the import substitution impact of local/domestic production
- Assessing the effectiveness of local food processing centers
- Monitoring the trend of market prices
- Evaluating the effectiveness of food security indicators
- Carry out social/public auditing of the implemented programs

Roles and Responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders:

- Federal government: Formulation of policies and regulations
- Provincial government: Formulate and implement policies and regulations
- Local government: Implement policies and regulations
- Private sector: Invest in food industries and ensure the supply of quality food products
- Farmers: Produce raw materials required for the agro-based industries

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	✓	Policy
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✓	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
			Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/6

Discussion Topic AT3: Boost nature-positive food production at scale

Context: Increased biodiversity losses, deforestation and land degradation are major problems. One third of agricultural lands are fallow and degraded, and a large portion are converted to settlements and infrastructure. Poverty has forced households in forest and pastureland encroachment. Production of major staples and commercial vegetables in some pockets has caused excessive mining of soil nutrients, water depletion and agrochemical pollution.

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition: Dependency on imported crop varieties is increasing with lack of site-specific food production; lack of production in broader landscape/agroecosystem level. Lack of land utilization policy and plans have promoted rapid conversion of fertile agriculture lands into settlements and other non-agriculture use. Disappearance of indigenous food system; rural out-migration; inadequate capacity development of farmers; lack of agriculture mechanization.

Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Traditional low productive food system
- Lack of awareness and knowledge among farmers about negative impact of agri-food system
- Lack of clear-cut policy and legislation about sustainable crop and animal production system
- Lack of knowledge among farmers about new technologies and practices.
- Lack of development of climate resilient agricultural system
- Limited accountability of farmers and food system actors
- Focus on only increased production of agriculture without considering negative impact on nature.
- Overuse and misuse of agrochemicals, hormones, and additives in animal production
- Loss of local seed diversity, native animal breeds
- Loss of soil health without adequate management and protection.

Actions for the next 3 years:

- Formulation of policy and laws for nature positive food production system
- Create awareness and orientation on nature positive food production.
- Conduct study, analyses and predict about how and to what extent existing food production system is affecting agricultural sufficiency and food security in the province 1 without damaging nature
- Implement and reorient gradually agricultural and livestock development program towards nature positive direction
- Implement food production programs by adopting agroecological zoning and suitability
- Develop plans and programs on organic /ecological farming
- Adopt climate smart agricultural system
- Adopt technologies and practices in agriculture and livestock that reduce GHG emissions
- Implement soil testing programs in every municipality
- Establish "Agricultura Data Bank" to promote broader agricultural information system
- Develop ecological based agricultural planning
- Develop and implement programs on conservation of agrobiodiversity
- Implement agroforestry and water resource management programs.

Assessing the success of Action:

- Inclusion of nature positive food production system in policy plans and programs
- Regular monitoring and evaluation and feed-back collection mechanisms
- Annual and quarterly review of nature positive production programs
- Long-term (10 years), medium term (7 years) and short term (3 years) planning and implementation of nature positive food production programs.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Governments and other Actors:

- Federal Government: Enforce land use policies and act for nature positive food production system, conduct research and develop new technologies and innovations.
- Provincial /Local Government: Disseminate new technologies and solutions developed from research system for nature positive production system, develop directives and standards for the nature positive programs; capacity development to maximum number of farmers and other relevant stakeholders for promoting nature positive production systems.
- Private Sectors and Other Civil Society Actors: Engage private sectors in nature positive production, processing and marketing of agri-food products
- Other relevant stakeholders consumers, processors, industries and market intermediaries to take ownership and promote nature positive food sy

ACTION TRACKS

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	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

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	Human rights	✓	Governance
✓	Women & Youth Empowerment		Trade-offs
		✓	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/6

Discussion Topic AT4: Advance equitable livelihoods of people involved in food systems

Context:

Landless, smallholders, women, Dalits, indigenous people rely on agriculture and forest-based foods; many of them are unrecognized as farmers, underpaid and, or wage rates differ by gender. Deep rooted social and economic inequalities in employment opportunities increase vulnerability. Inadequate institutional mechanisms for and limited capacity of women, small holders, old-age, people with disability (PWD), internally displaced people (IDPs).

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition:

Agriculture sector is seen as less remunerative and less attractive. The major reasons are of skewed power relation over productive resources especially of land, water, forest to women and disadvantaged groups; land fragmentation and use of agricultural land for other purposes have reduced options to secure access and land rights of people in the value chain. Feminization of agriculture due to young male out-migration.

Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Inequalities exist across the food chain;
- Rigidness in institutional provisions and response mechanisms as well as institutional biases that do not support poor and vulnerable;
- Disaster hits the poor and vulnerable disproportionately;
- No promotion of cultural foods of high nutrition values;
- Lack of quality control specially of nutritional aspects in the food chains;
- Lack of multi-stakeholder's collaboration working on social-cultural-economic issues to ensure diversified food baskets;
- Food price hikes and quality deterioration;
- Social discriminatory norms and practices that inhibits girls and women and certain caste and ethnicities for accessing nutritious and diversified food;
- Unequal food system specially during disaster and emergencies (price hikes, artificial shortage, black marketing, poor cannot afford and vulnerable have no information and or access to relief support)
- No secured employment, income and food supplies for the poor, small holders, vulnerable groups.

Actions for three years:

- Deal with discriminatory norms and practices;
- Strengthen producer, vendors, market actors, consumers in decision-making process of rural food system transformation;
- Establish processing industries for high value industrial crops such as ginger, cardamom, betle nuts that create employment for women, youth and agri-laborers;
- Establish, regularize and manage food storage system for emergency supplies;
- Issue cards for poor and marginalized communities to access food in subsidized rates;
- Crop insurance to the marginalized and small holders.

Assessing the success of Action:

- Establish relief fund based on pre-assessment of needs for targeting to informal sector workers and vulnerable groups;
- Pre-planning for production and relief package;
- Establish grievance dealing and response mechanisms for inequalities in accessing food for all;
- Establish data bank and monitor it regularly;
- Ensure work place safety for informal workers, agricultural wage workers and workers in the food chain.

Roles and Responsibilities of Governments and Other Stakeholders:

- Federal government: devise policy frameworks that promotes rights-based approach for ensuring food for all, facilitate long-term investment for structural transformation in food system, support in developing scientific pricing mechanisms for food and strengthen regulatory systems; make food estimates and support provincial and local governments in making forecasts and food supply plan.
- Provincial governments to prepare comprehensive food supply plan, food banks for the crisis period;
- Provincial government to facilitate collaboration among the municipalities, inter-provincial and with federal government for public private partnership in creating equitable food supply system;
- Local governments have the prime role to establish food bank at local levels;
- Local governments to establish identifying the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups
- Local governments to create awareness against the discriminatory practices.

ACTION TRACKS

	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
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✓	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 5/6

Discussion Topic AT5: Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses

Context: Current food system is under pressure from climate crisis, conflict, COVID-19 pandemics, economic shocks, natural disasters and environmental degradation, including food price hikes and disease-pests outbreaks. These shocks, stress and disaster can be devastating for poor and vulnerable people, who have limited resources and options. Climate induced and other natural disasters have significant impact on national economy. Lately, COVID-19 has contributed to increase unemployment, poverty and vulnerability including loss of livelihoods. The 2015 Earthquake increased number of food insecure people by 3.5 million.

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition:

Natural and climate induced disasters; high post-production losses; weak supply chain; pandemics (COVID-19) and other epidemics. Economic shocks, like food price hikes and income losses due to pandemics and disasters. Limited investment on R&D to reduce vulnerability and build resilience. Farmers and stakeholders lack adequate incentives for climate initiatives and green agriculture. Epidemics/ pandemic (such as diarrhea, COVID-19, etc) have increased vulnerability of poor, women, and marginalized households.

Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Social: Male migration, outmigration, conflict in natural resources, less youth attraction in agriculture, socio-cultural taboos
- Economic: Economic crisis: loss employment and livelihoods, pandemics (Covid-19), food price spike, farmers' not getting reasonable prices of their products
- Environmental: natural disasters, drought, flooding, land-slides, soil erosion, earthquake, forest fires
- Policy and governance: low effective implementation of policy and regulations,

Actions in the next 3 years

- Early warning system development and flow of proper information (weather related forecast) to disaster prone areas
- Strengthening of institutional and structural aspects of 3 tiers government
- Agricultural diversification, irrigation investment and agricultural insurance promotion
- Social safety net: productivity safety net such as Food bank, Emergency food pantries etc.
- Development and utilization of agricultural data, weather insurance, market information and research impacts
- Policy coordination: Transnational and within three tiers of government
- Community organization and local innovation
- Inventory of indigenous knowledge, promote underutilized and indigenous crop

Assessing the success of Action:

- Effective monitoring and evaluation, reporting feedback
- Evidence of effective implementation of acts, policy and regulations
- Indicators of increased technology transfer, production and productivity increase
- Equitable distribution of benefits of value chain development among food system actors
- Self-assessment: ownership enhancement, gap determination

Collaboration and Roles/responsibilities of 3 tiers Government and other Actors:

Federal Government: Strengthen coordination among international actors, Coordinate with public and private investments, enforcement of act, policy and regulations on food system; awareness, food assistance program, Infrastructure (Transport and Storage), cross ministerial collaboration, public-private partnership for resilience, food system and safety traceability system to be developed.

Provincial Government: Strengthen coordination among central and local level government, resources utilization, infrastructure Development, technological innovation, strengthen social protection system: Food bank, Food safety net etc., Surveillance and rapid response-to tackle risks.

Local Government: Community organization and local innovation, program to increase production and productivity, monitor and analyse vulnerability, partnership with local community based organizations (CBOs) to increase investment to improve food security and resilience, Monitoring of local food safety issues

Private Sectors, Civil Societies and Academia: Cross sectoral /disciplinary collaboration in federal and provincial level to ensure food security and food safety, traceability system.

ACTION TRACKS

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✓	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

	Finance	✓	Policy
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		✓	Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 6/6

Discussion Topic AT6: Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act-a legal framework for sustainable food systems in Nepal

Context: Nepal has developed legal framework to ensure good governance of food systems and transform them. The right to food and food sovereignty is enshrined in the constitution, and the government has given priority to ensure safe and nutritious food to all in a sustainable manner. The Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act accommodates all ATs and provides as a legal framework for the resilient, equitable and sustainable food systems in Nepal.

Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition: Limited consultations with stakeholders, while formulating the Act; outcomes of the consultations were not widely shared. In general, policies are often prepared in rush, and with less attention to preparing action plan. Lack of organized efforts in the implementation of policies. Poor accountability measures on the implementation of laws/policies. Governments, particularly at local levels lack technical capacity to prepare laws and policies.

Underlying Barriers to Achieve the Stated Proposition:

- No effective implementation of the Food Act and no policy harmonization
- No awareness among the targeted groups about the provisions of the Act
- No update of the Acts
- Inadequate development of infrastructures to support agri. value chains.
- Lack of adoption of production-based subsidy system
- Existence of weak and inadequate institutions and mechanisms and inadequate technical manpower
- Poor awareness among the food security and weak advocacy about it
- Increasing fragmentation of cultivated land
- Very less recognition of agriculture as a profession
- Inadequate modern scientific laboratory, human resources, and poor allocation of resources for it
- Lack of identification of food insecure areas and implementation of appropriate food programs

Actions in the next 3 years

- Formulation of Regulation to implement the provisions of the Act
- Implementation of all provisions of the Act
- Preparation and implementation of Food Plans
- Inclusion of Nutrition Education in the school curriculum
- Development and operation of modern laboratories with sufficient equipment and resources
- Prepare database of every citizen
- Formation of National Food Council, Provincial Food Council and Local Food Coordination Committee
- Practice group farming, provide land to landless people for cultivation
- Identify the food insecure targeted people
- Promote kitchen/home gardening, monitor the prices of imported food products and harmonize the price with local products
- Increase the capacity of food storages and increase the transportation subsidy

Assessing the success of Action:

- Formulation of Food Regulation to implement the Act
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the distribution of subsidy and technical support for agricultural commercialization through developing a participatory mechanism.

Roles and Responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders:

Federal government:

- Stabilize price, Study and research, M&E, facilitation of export and import, establishment of food storages, and judicial distribution

Federal & province govt:

- Allocation of required resources and strengthen food system for achieving desired outcome and implement governance mechanism for transparency and accountability

Province & Local govt:

- Formulation of regulations, dissemination of public messages, awareness raising education programs, establishment of food storages, technical support,

Local govt:

- Control the land fragmentation, identification of food insecure families and provide food to them, regulate the middlemen and develop marketing infrastructures.

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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was no marked observation on the areas of divergence.

ACTION TRACKS

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

- Finance
- Innovation
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