

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Monday, 21 June 2021 09:30 GMT +08:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	National Dialogue on the Population and Peace Building Towards Food Security
CONVENED BY	Hon. Secretary William D. Dar
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/29776/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Philippines

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

65

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

23 Male

42 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

1 Education
Communication
Food processing
Food retail, markets
Food industry
Financial Services

2 Health care
Nutrition
22 National or local government
Utilities
Industrial
40 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
2 Local Non-Governmental Organization
International Non-Governmental Organization
Indigenous People
1 Science and academia

Workers and trade union
Member of Parliament
10 Local authority
50 Government and national institution
Regional economic community
United Nations
International financial institution
Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
2 Consumer group
Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

As an initial activity, the Philippines Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) held an online meeting (via zoom) last June 2, 2021 to discuss on how to collaborate and generate significant actions and measurable progress towards the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and provide inputs to the UN-Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) to be held on July 2021. Both agencies agreed on how they will be able to invite key stakeholders and bring out tangible and positive changes to the country's food systems. The two (2) agencies agreed to stage separate forums that will highlight the demographic dimensions of the food systems and the linkage of sustainable food systems with peace building and population and development. There is an undeniable link between conflict and hunger. For people who rely on agriculture, conflicts destroy food systems, cost of assets and incomes which may trigger food insecurity, malnutrition and hunger. Moreover, population living in countries affected by conflicts was more likely to be food insecure and malnourished.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

To better understand the interrelationships of population and peace building towards food security, the discussion focused on good governance as crucial in building healthy conditions for agriculture. Preventing environmental destruction, reducing violence and poverty were some of the main conditions to achieve development and rehabilitation/sustainability in agriculture to achieve food security. Peace building is a freedom from deprivation of basic needs and the right to development. Peace building as a global development goal by emphasizing SDG 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels). We cannot achieve or hope for sustainable development without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law. Addressing fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) is a strategic priority to achieve our twin goals – end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity... (World Bank on SDG 16). In this context, the key players to include -- the population sector, healthcare, academia, farmers and other stakeholders is needed to act accordingly in order to achieve the objectives of the forum.

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

The Convenor ensures that this food systems dialogue can engage different stakeholders in dealing with issues and concerns affecting the main topic. Along this line, understanding the population and peace building as it affect the sustainability of food production is a major issue that should be addressed by the different stakeholders. Food systems encompass the entire range of actors and their interlinked value-adding activities involved in the production, aggregation, processing, distribution, consumption and disposal of food products that originate from agriculture, forestry or fisheries and parts of the broader economics, societal and natural environments in which they are embedded. A food system that delivers food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations are not compromised. The engagement of these different groups including farmer groups is necessary to contribute to the attainment of the objectives of this forum. Through alignment of the methods of engagement and interactive participation with different stakeholders, a more exhaustive discussion that would encourage them to share different perspectives could create ideas and networks within them. Thus, engagements with different stakeholders including farmer groups, non-government organizations, national agencies, local authorities and civil society organizations will contribute to the social and economic aspects of the country's food security as well as long-term transformation of food systems.

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

We cannot hope for sustainable development without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law. Yet our world is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy peace, security and prosperity, while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is not inevitable and must be addressed.

By using the framework for Analyzing the Demographic Dimension of Peace and Security, the following were emphasized:

- Migration of lowlanders to the upland areas could be a source of peace and order problems;
- An expanding urban population with an economy that is not providing commensurate socioeconomic growth could instigate political instability;
- Where education is low and poverty incidence and hunger is high, conflict or crimes are likely to be higher and demand for peace and security interventions is also likely to be higher;
- Cultural ideologies pose a threat to peace and security (e.g. ideology based armed conflicts or IBACs, tribal wars);
- Political conflicts in specific areas likewise affect the status of peace and security; and
- Economic reforms and development opportunities impact on securing peace.

Along this line, conflict has strong and unambiguous adverse effects on food security and nutrition. It is the major driver of food insecurity and malnutrition, both acute and chronic. The causal effects of conflict-food security nexus vary across conflict zones, but common features are disruptions in the food production and food systems, plundering of crops and livestock, loss of assets and incomes, hence directly and directly affecting food access.

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

Using the conceptual framework for Peace Development, Population and Poverty it identified some takeaways to include:

- Ideology based armed conflicts (IBACs) delay the development of affected communities
- IBACs can be resolved with strong institutional support from national and local governments
- IBACs has affected the resiliency of the population

The IBACs impinge upon development. Poverty and deprivation are conflated reasons for armed conflict, where delivery of services, livelihood and economic activities of the population are disrupted or delayed, and thus, IBAC-affected areas are left behind by their counterparts.

IBACs develop in remote and poverty stricken communities where social services such as schools, health facilities are barely delivered or none at all due to inaccessibility. Frustrations over impeded delivery by local government of basic social services including infrastructure and utilities translate to dissent.

IBACs impact on population factors as in migration (in-migration); in-migration in search for safer areas such is an inevitable reaction to armed violence. The movement of the population towards urbanized areas is largely temporary, the sources of their livelihood and properties being located in their original domiciles. Combined poverty reduction, population management, peace development and peace-making strategies are needed to make a dent on the effects of IBACs on the population.

The attainment of lasting and sustainable peace through peace-making coming from state, non-state actors with the direct involvement of the grassroots in the IBAC affected areas enables the population to move forward to development. Policy enhances and strengthens peace development, poverty reduction and peace-making. The attainment of peace as a matter of policy will realize peace dividends. Policy change and policy advocacy are necessary towards full development of IBAC areas.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

The integration of peace-making and peace building in community-based development planning through organization and development of consultation mechanisms in planning as well as direct peoples' participation in peace-making and peace development in IBAC areas.

There is need to review policies and implement advocacy plans at all levels of governance through the following actions:

- Push for the adoption of an improved local peacemaking in the national agenda for peace and review to strengthen presently adopted institutional approach in security forces' peace development policy in IBAC areas.
- Revisit and draw lessons for improving the processes involved in successful local peacemaking initiatives.
- Revisit the bottoms-up-budgeting as fiscal policy to enhance acquisition of peace development programs or peace development funds and resources.
- Develop and enact fiscal policy measures that enhance access to local and national legislated funds for peacemaking and peace development in IBAC areas.

Another take away is to improve and support strategies to strengthen food security and nutrition in conflict affected areas vis a vis strengthening of peace building specifically on agricultural productivity, livelihood, infrastructure and expansion of market and value chain management.

Some of the policy recommendations provided and agreed include:

- Improve institutional mechanisms for more integrative programs (e.g. integration of population management strategies in food security and anti-hunger mitigation programs);
- Strengthen the population and development integration policy and program (i.e. comprehensively address concerns on population distribution due to unmanaged internal migration and optimizing changing age structure – demographic dividend;
- Reduce regional imbalance in economic opportunities by expanding economic opportunities in other regions outside NCR, Central Luzon and CALABARZON;
- Enhance the linkages within the core system of food systems (production, aggregation, processing, distribution and consumption) and their support service providers, as well as the interactions between the core system and social and natural contexts they are embedded in, affected by and have impacts on; and
- Enhance governance mechanisms among diverse stakeholders of the food systems.

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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There is divergence among the perspective and opinions of the participants, however the discussion focused towards a common goal that population and food production should go hand in hand including peace building.

The government should look at improving conditions of underdeveloped areas and what appropriate industries should be given to them. The divergence on this issue somewhat varies on the idea to put the emphasis on the local government jurisdiction on the matter. This somehow influenced the majority of the participants and agreed on the same ground.

At the onset, peace-making indeed as a strategy can gain towards community development and thus affected the food production of a protected area. The experience of gaining peace dividend has indeed reduced poverty and increase food security in the previous conflict areas in the country like North Cotabato and Bukidnon.

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