

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Wednesday, 30 June 2021 11:00 GMT +05:45
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	"Nepal towards an equitable, resilient and sustainable food system"
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Hon. Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli, Member, National Planning Commission
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/30407/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/30407/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Member State
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	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

125

## 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 dialogues 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

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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

Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission (NPC), organized the provincial Food Systems Dialogue of Bagmati Province on 30th June 2021 on the theme Nepal towards an equitable, resilient and sustainable food system. Hon Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli, Member of National Planning Commission and National Convenor delivered the welcome speech and opening remarks. Ms. Sabnam Shivakoti, Secretary, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation (MoLMACPA) 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 125 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 success 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
- Innovation
- ✓ Human rights
- ✓ Women & Youth Empowerment
- ✓ Policy
- ✓ Data & Evidence
- ✓ Governance
- 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 below: Outcomes for each discussion topic).

### 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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### KEYWORDS

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## 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%). Situation of nutrition has improved over the period of 1996 to 2019: stunting decreased from 57 to 32%, underweight 42 to 24, and wasting from 15 to 12%.

#### Underlying causes affecting the stated proposition:

Locally available nutritious crops/foods getting less importance; biodiversity/cultural diversity not promoted. No focus on micronutrients; poor nutrition including breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices; many families do not have access to nutrient rich foods; growing burden of non-communicable diseases; divergence between nutrition and WASH programmes due to lack of coherence between food security and nutrition sectors.

#### Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Lack of school education program to educate the students about the agriculture and food and nutrition
- Inadequate awareness about the nutrition and increasing use of junk/ultra-processed foods
- High food wastage and our social and cultural traditions
- Inequitable distribution system of foods.
- Lack of promotion of the underutilized nutritive foods
- Inadequate appropriate storage facilities
- Lack of awareness about the food and nutrition among the marginalized and poor communities
- Influence of middlemen in agri-distribution system
- No assurance of markets and poor marketing system for the locally produced commodities
- Poor nutrition including breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices
- Poor rural-urban linkages for the movement of agri commodities
- No targeted programs for small farmers
- Weak coordination and linkages between research and extension
- Existence of subsistence farming and very less commercialization
- Poor and or inadequate understanding of three tiers of government with designated roles to enhance food system competence.

#### Actions for three years:

- Enhancing capacity to implement the special commercial agricultural production plan
- Develop targeted programs to attract youth in agriculture
- Trainings on nutrition sensitive agriculture for all the personnel at all levels of the government
- Subsidy related programs to be implemented by the local government
- Development of land utilization plan and implement through local government
- Establishment of collection centers at the remote areas
- Farmers' supportive programs identification of and management of trained/skilled agri- technicians at the province and local level
- Identification of food and nutrition insecure areas and implement nutrition related programs
- Develop database/statistics on the status of food and nutrition and continue/expand school meal program to support the local food production

#### Assessing the success of Action:

- Activate the joint mechanism in food and nutrition and effective implementation of feedbacks and suggestions
- Develop mechanism among the three tiers of government to coordinate and collaborate the food and nutrition at all levels
- Develop result indicator and framework for each program
- Periodic review of result framework of the programs

#### Roles and Responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders

##### Federal Government:

- Enactment of Acts and Regulations, Management of Foreign aid for projects, Implementation of research and extension-based activities, and promotion/mobilization of Nepal Agriculture Research Council

##### Provincial Government:

- Establishment of Resource/development centers, entrepreneurship development, research on crops and commodities, establishment of province as a center of statistics.

##### Local Government:

- Technical assistance and support, balanced allocation and management of resources, implementation of PPP approach in agricultural development



## ACTION TRACKS

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

## KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	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 in the country. 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. Increase in fat intake in diet and undernutrition in childhood has coincided with increased overweight/ obesity and other Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD); over two-thirds of adolescent girls in both rural and urban areas reported consuming sugary foods. Consumption of foods produced by using high dose chemical fertilizers and pesticides; items, such as biscuits, instant noodles and juice drinks may be supplying about a quarter of energy intake of children <2 years, which is lowering their intake of essential vitamins and minerals.

Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Inadequate research and information about the nutritive value of underutilized/indigenous crops and commodities
- No food and culinary research of indigenous crops
- Less knowledge about the product diversification and no value adding activities to the locally available foods,
- No alternative search for the preparation of the alcoholic beverage instead of cereals.
- No inclusion of consumption behavior and food and nutrition delivery system in existing school education system
- Home culture does not promote the changes in food system
- Lack of research and information on the naturally available foodstuffs
- Inadequate food technologists and inspectors for monitoring of the food quality
- No explicit policy to conduct research on foods and very less budget allocation for it.
- Lack of identification of practices for reducing/minimizing post-production losses

Actions for three years:

- Formulate policies to utilize the locally produced foods at the local level
- Regulate and more taxing to the ultra-processed foods
- GIS mapping for statistical updating and improvement
- Processing, value addition, marketing, and storage of indigenous crops/commodities
- Preparing a roster of consumable/edible commodities and emphasize for their conservation, promotion, and utilization
- Laboratory strengthening along with technical knowledge and management of the manpower
- Awareness raising programs to change the food habits
- Identification of wild/forest-based foods, their research, conservation and seed multiplication
- School feeding program to link with production, market regulation and markets
- Coordination with the farmers to formulate the programs as per their needs and demand
- Provision of soft loan programs to promote agricultural value chains

Assessing the success of Action:

- Effective implementation of food Acts and regulation and preparation of food standards
- Ensuring access to nutritious foods
- Access to markets and storage
- Creating a framework for participatory monitoring and evaluation
- Development of Food management information system
- Identification of key indicators for quality food system
- Developing input system, markets, and marketing management system
- Dedicated public institutions for post-production handling of food products
- Technical support system for inputs and outputs

Roles and Responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders:

- Federal: Formulation of policies and regulations
- Province: Formulation of policies /regulations, and their implementation
- Local government: Implementation of policies and regulations and documentation
- Private sector: Investment in food industries and ensuring the supply of quality food products
- Farmers: Produce raw materials required for the agro-based industry

## ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
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## KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
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<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	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. Food habits mostly towards rice and wheat have led to a narrow dietary diversity.

#### Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Climate change impact and lack of effective technologies for climate change adaptation
- Fragmentation and degradation of agricultural land, depletion of water sources
- Loss of local knowledge and skills due to changes in food habits
- Reduction in agrobiodiversity and loss of indigenous crop varieties and animal breeds
- Inadequate and inappropriate management of soil fertility
- Lack of management of reliable diversified agricultural markets
- Poor management of household and urban wastes
- Keeping agricultural land fallow due to urban and oversea migration of youth
- Lack of conducive policies and plans for agricultural production based on agroecological zoning and potentials
- Pollution to soil, water and air due to haphazard use of agrochemicals
- Degradation of pasture /range lands in Himalayan region
- Existing policies not providing adequate incentives to promote local agrobiodiversity

#### Actions for the next 3 years:

- Effective enforcement of land use act and regulation
- Agrobiodiversity research and development program implementation
- Formulation of needed policy, strategy and research for nature positive food system
- Formulate and implement suitable policy on fallow land utilization
- Diversification in forest lands for promoting food production
- Improve and restore soil fertility in degraded lands
- Improvement and promotion of pasture /rangelands for livestock production in high mountains
- Identification of important critical and degraded watersheds for protection
- Development of value chain of locally produced foods
- Strengthening local seed system mobilizing community seed banks
- Develop and implement policy and action plans by linking organic and ecological farming with tourism and health
- Focus on conducting research on agrobiodiversity and organic farming.
- Develop and promote eco-zone specific climate smart technologies in partnership with local government
- Implement programs for local food production and food recipes preparation for running school meal and nutrition programs at the local level.

#### Assessing the success of Action:

- Agricultural land being protected with the implementation of land use /management program
- Program planned and being implemented considering climate risks
- Increased production and availability of organic and ecological products at the local markets
- Establishment of community seed banks and local varieties being registered for their promotion
- Program planning and budgeting being implemented at the provincial and local level by mainstreaming agrobiodiversity, organic and climate smart agriculture
- Improved soil fertility and increased organic matter in the soils
- Increased number of productive livestock and productivity in the high mountain region

#### Roles/responsibilities of 3 tiers Governments & Other Stakeholders:

- Federal Government: Development of policy, regulation and directives for community seed bank, local variety registration, source seed maintenance and commercialization
- Provincial Government: Formulation of operational guidelines and directives
- Local Government: Community mobilization for implementation of community seed banks, resource leverage and budget allocation.
- NGOs/CBOs: Social mobilization, technical support in community seed bank, diversity block maintenance and organization of agrobiodiversity fairs and farmers diversity field school implementation
- Private: Seed marketing, processing, value addition and marketing of local seed based nutritious food product

## ACTION TRACKS

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## KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
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<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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) to claim their rights, they have less access to production resources, space for voice, negotiation power in the market systems.

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:

- The availability of food for all is lesser;
- Lack of proper nutritious diet, child under-nourishment, overweight;
- Food processor/business groups are engaged in highly processed food,
- Local landraces/crops/foods are less known and promoted;
- Lack of research on food, culinary arts, food diversity and value additions;
- Cereals used in liquors;
- Dominance of middle persons in food price settings and market management,
- School education system and family culture not oriented to proper food habits;
- Lack of ecological zone-based prioritization, soil degradation, pasture/grazing land degradation;
- No adequate targeted programs for poor and vulnerable groups.

Actions for three years:

- Capacity building and effective implementation of land use Act and Regulations,
- Development and implementation of agri-biodiversity based research and development;
- Development of eco zones specific policies and action plans promoting local foods;
- Policy and program to use fallow lands;
- Diversify food products/crops/recipes including utilizing forest spaces;
- Promote local crops-based value chains specially of enterprises and businesses promoted and led by women, cooperatives, youths etc.;
- Land leasing for poor and marginalized groups;
- Promote climate smart agriculture system;
- Promotion of nutrition gardens for family nutrition;
- Awareness raising about local crop based nutritious foods; establish seed banks and food banks;
- Manage relief programs that are transparent and inclusive.

Assessing the success of Action:

- Land use plan;
- Agricultural land protection;
- Climate risk-based agriculture system;
- Local crops and foods in market;
- Mainstream agriculture biodiversity;
- Organic farming in food system;
- Soil organic matter improved; and
- Livestock-based food diversity specially in high altitudes; functional community seed banks; and registered local crops.

Roles and Responsibilities of governments and other stakeholders:

- Federal government to focus on policies, mobilization of development partners, invest in research and innovation, coordinate for financing as well as stabilize price for staple food items;
- Establish institutional arrangement made in the Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act
- Provincial govt: prepare provincial policies and implement guidelines, make financing and program design for inter-municipality coordination, data management, support agri-based enterprising and marketing;
- Local governments: implement programs, monitoring, reporting with proper data management on food security status; manage food bank and local seed bank to ensure equitable access for all, and mobilize public private partnership as well as cooperatives
- Private sector to invest in value chain development of agri-based and safe food enterprising, marketing and job creation;
- Academic institutions to integrate agriculture biodiversity in course curriculum and research;
- NGOs/CBOs in social mobilization

## ACTION TRACKS

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## 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. 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. Climate induced natural disasters are increasing more than before due to haphazard road constructions, improper infrastructure development and accelerated process of urbanizations. Limited investment on R&D to reduce vulnerability and build resilience. Farmers and stakeholders lack adequate incentives for climate initiatives and green agriculture. High post-production losses, unsafe transportation and weak supply chain resulting in inadequate/late access of safe food in affordable prices for marginal, poor and low income groups. Epidemics/pandemic (such as diarrhea, COVID-19, etc) have increased vulnerability of poor, women, and marginalized households. Improper food habits with poor feeding practices. Poor, landless, and marginalized groups have settlements in vulnerable places (river banks, landslide prone areas). Preparation and readiness arrangements are weak.

#### Underlying Barriers for Achieving the Stated Proposition:

- Agriculture not being remunerative profession, high import dependency
- Changes in food culture
- Lack of promotion of local production of foods
- Weak food storage and distribution system
- Increased negative effect of climate change
- Lack of storage /conservation of local seeds at the local level and high dependency on imported hybrid seeds
- Lack of adoption of farmer's friendly technologies and practices
- Lack of harmonization of policy among different sectors and ministry (eg. Forest-livestock-people interface)
- Lack of effective preparation and preplanning for disaster risks reduction

#### Actions for the next 3 years:

- Use of agriculture technologies, innovations and mechanization for cost-effective competitive food production and marketing
- Use of diverse public awareness, communication, sensitization and education programs and mechanisms for the development resilient, equitable and sustainable food system
- Remove restrictions for all food system production and supply mechanisms during crisis (eg. COVID-19 lock down)
- Establishment and operationalization of food banks and seed banks.
- Implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation programs and projects
- Carry out research and development suited to local agroecology
- Reform and revision in policies and legislations for resilient food system development and reduce the vulnerability of vulnerable people
- Planning and advance preparation of risk reduction plans and programs

#### Assessing the success of Action:

- Evidence in policy, programs, and budget speech
- Quarterly and annual progress report
- Periodic monitoring and evaluation jointly with multi-stakeholders
- Health and nutrition related indicators

#### Roles and Responsibilities of 3 tiers Governments and Other Stakeholders:

- Federal Government: Multisectoral disaster response unit, Early warning system, Emergency fund management, Policy alignment.
- Provincial Government: Farmers' friendly research based on local land and agroecological context, Land bank establishment and operation, Extension of Climate Smart Technologies
- Local Government: Disaster risk assessment, use of new agriculture technologies, mechanization, community seed banks establishment, and ensure enhanced equitable access to them.
- Concerned Stakeholders: Awareness program, joint monitoring and public-private partnership



## ACTION TRACKS

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## KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input 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 - 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:

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 regulation formulated to implement the provisions of the Act
- Delay in the revision of the Food Act by the Federal government
- No formation of Provincial Food Council and Local Food Coordination Committee
- Not yet provided the identification card to poor and farmers as per the Act
- No seriousness in implementation and monitoring the provision of the Act
- Inadequate awareness raising activities by the government about the Act
- No assurance of food storage and marketing of the food grains
- Lack of skilled/trained human resources at the local level
- No identification of the needs of different categories of the farmers as they are not classified yet.
- Inadequate availability of resources and logistics to implement the Act.

Actions for the next 3 years:

- Formulation of Regulation to implement the provisions of the Act
- Formation of Provincial Food Council and Local Food Coordination Committee soon
- Awareness raising activities by the government about the quality of the food products
- Formulation of Food Act at the provincial and local level and mention provision for the facilitation of production and marketing of locally produced commodities.
- Distribution of the identification card to poor and farmers
- Spell out the coordination mechanism among the three tiers of the government in the Regulation

Assessing the success of Action:

- Formation of an effective mechanism for implementation and monitoring of the provisions of the Act
- Implementation of awareness raising and capacity building programs.
- Publication of the Monitoring Indicators
- Assurance of timely supply of production inputs
- Food rights to be recognized, protected and promoted.

Roles and Responsibilities of 3 tiers Governments and Other Stakeholders:

- Federal government: Formulation of Regulation to implement the provisions of the Act, Stabilize the price of basic foodstuffs.
- Provincial government: Formation of Food Council
- Local government: Formation of Food Coordination Committee
- All Governments: Management for food storage, buffer stocking and distribution, Coordination for maintaining quality and standards for food, Policy and system improvement for ensuring access to foods.
- Other stakeholders: Coordination, collaboration, and partnerships with governments

### 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

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## **AREAS OF DIVERGENCE**

There was no marked observation on the areas of divergence.

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