

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 14 July 2021 14:00 GMT +06:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Inter-regional Dialogue of South-South Cooperation -- INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "Best practices for building Sustainable Food Systems in the OIC region"
CONVENED BY	Dr. Ismail Abdelhamid, Director of Programmes & Projects Office, Islamic Organization for Food Security
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/30445/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Intergovernmental
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Côte D'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia (Republic of The), Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Yemen

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

244

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

0

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

31 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

Local authority

106 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

19 United Nations

International financial institution

29 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?

The Dialogue was organized as an Inter-Regional Dialogue of South-South Cooperation for the region of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (56 member states). The Official Letters to all 56 member states was submitted on the invitation to participate and actively get involved in the organization of the International Conference titled "Best practices for building Sustainable Food Systems in the OIC region". In Official Letters, member states were requested the participation of government agencies responsible for food security and involvement of other stakeholders, including National Food System Dialogue participants, representatives of various government agencies, private sector, research and science organizations, as well as civil society. Besides of that, the IOFS promoted the event through social media and encouraged the participation of private sector, academia and civil society from member states.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Dialogue comprised from Four Sessions. One Session was specifically dedicated to the National Food System Dialogues, where six countries presented their experience on the arrangement of National Dialogues in their countries. Particularly, they addressed the following topics: discussion of the organizational process, including the involvement of wide variety of stakeholders, as well as presentation of recommendations on building pathways and providing solutions for sustainable food systems.

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

The Principles of Engagement certainly can contribute in having broad vision toward building sustainable food systems. Therefore, as it was shown in the examples of many countries, multi-stakeholder dialogues help to identify problems, especially at local or district level, and find ways of solutions jointly, by also increasing the level of accountability not only on the government side, but also on the communities side as well.

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

Considering the importance of enhancing the national and regional capacities of building resilient food systems to address the food insecurity challenges, the Conference focused on the following themes that elaborated within the dedicated Sessions:

- Governance of Food Security (developing the coherent policy and legal frameworks; ensuring the coordinated intra- and inter-governmental actions; monitoring and evaluation mechanisms);
- National Food System Dialogues (experience of member states of arranging National Dialogues, discussion of their organizational process, including the involvement of wide variety of stakeholders, as well as recommendations to build pathways and provide solutions for sustainable food systems);
- Management of Food Supply Chains (maintenance of stable food supply chains and food imports; manufacturing, retail and logistics; technology trends in food supply chains, including digitalization of distribution and procurement systems);
- Promotion of Agricultural Development (government support to small farmers and farmer livelihoods, enhancing food processing, use of smart technology in agriculture).

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

On Governance of Food Security:

- The development of comprehensive frameworks with clear vision and objectives that entails the political commitment from the highest levels of leadership to the dimension of policies, strategies and action plans that set out roles and responsibilities of various actors for implementation and achievement of goals. It is important that these frameworks are formulated with the involvement of all stakeholders and incorporate the international norms, as well as target the various segments of food security domain.
- Therefore, short and long-term strategic planning of these frameworks is vital for ensuring the food security in a country, as shown in the examples of UAE (National Food Security Strategy 2051 in line with the UAE Centennial 2071 Plan); Bangladesh (National Food and Nutrition Security Policy with 8 Five Year Plans and Vision 2041); Ireland (Agri-Food Strategy 2030);
- It is crucial to have the coherence between frameworks and strategies, as well as the broad approach of coordination among intra- and inter-agencies at national and local levels with the involvement of multiple actors from government, private sector, academia, research organization, smallholder farmers and civil society. Legal frameworks shall be consistent with resources, capacity and timeframe. Principally, the establishment of a coordinating body at the highest government level is essential to arrange the processes of planning, implementation and monitoring and activities of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. As it is shown in the examples of UAE (Emirates Council for Food Security launched in response to COVID-19, and membership consists wide range of actors); Bangladesh (Food Planning and Monitoring Committee, that also comprises from the highest level of officials); Ireland (Strategy Committee; Chaired by business-trusted person, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and consists various actors, such as researchers, industries, businesses, retailers, farmers, banking, environmental NGOs, young farmers and others).
- The Strategies themselves are “live” documents containing SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time bound) goals, with clear steps toward strong food systems, and cover all aspects of food systems encompassing environmental, social and economic sustainability.
- The government shall play the main role in ensuring the availability and accessibility of food to its population. As shown in the presentation of FAO, many governments take the commitment to ensure the right to adequate food in their countries. That commitment entails aspects of policy, legal, institutional, budgetary measures and monitoring/accountability. It also assigns responsibilities across sectors and institutions/coordination, direction to other legislation/coherence.

On Management of Food Supply Chains:

- As shown in all the presentations of this session, great emphasis is paid to strengthening food supply and value chains. Digitalization of food supply is essential to improve agricultural and food systems. It includes e-commerce, digital technologies to connect producers/farmers and traders, processors, buyers/consumers. Innovations are also significant in all processes, including food procurement, food supply chains and control systems.
- Logistics infrastructure and storing facilities shall be enhanced to ensure the resilience at households, enable vulnerable farmers to be able to realize their activities, and reduce losses that would result in greater availability and accessibility for entire communities.
- As shown in the practice applied in Russia, the development of a network of wholesale distribution centers (WDC) if the state federal task that can bring solutions for interregional trade, stimulation of agricultural production and the formation of related infrastructure at the local levels (warehouses, storage facilities, dryers, local processing facilities). Because many agricultural producers and especially smallholder farmers face problems of distribution, lack of coordination with retailers, buyers, storage of food at local levels, ensure its quality and freshness.

On Promotion of Agricultural Development

- Governments are not able to reform food systems without collaboration with businesses and agricultural producers that operate within the food system. Therefore, many presentations of the Session demonstrated how governments can promote the agriculture and support local farmers with the long-term goal of achieving food security and sovereignty, and reduce the dependency to external shocks.
- As it was shown in the example of Turkey, the government play significant role in supporting to small and medium agricultural enterprises, young farmers and smallholders by putting the priority for R&D investment programs and organic agriculture. Overall, this state support improves access to financing for smallholders, cooperatives and small businesses, as well as helps rural areas to sustain their agricultural activities.
- The universities and research organizations are also instrumental in promotion of agriculture and advance of food systems. The presentation of Kazakh National Agrarian Research University showed the Kazakhstan’s model of extension knowledge dissemination system, where the university provide online and in-person consulting and capacity-building training services with covering tens of thousands of farmers and enterprises at national, local and district levels.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

- The ongoing global financial and pandemic crises, along with climate change and other problems that the international community is facing today are having an adverse impact on the progress of ensuring food security across member countries and achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, it is crucial to find the right and optimal level of engagement between government and other stakeholders for ensuring all food security pillars: availability, access, utilization and stability.
- All presentations of this Session demonstrated the consistency with the principles of engagement in the process of United Nations Food Systems Dialogues, particularly, the participation of wide variety of stakeholders at these dialogues, such as private sector, academia, research entities, local authorities, business enterprises, schools, universities, international partners and many other actors. The principles of engagement improve the communication among these stakeholders and increases the responsibility for each of them in contributing to better food systems. Therefore, the attraction of all stakeholders is essential to review the existing systems and generate ideas for re-building resilient food systems.
- Major disruptions of food supply chains due to lockdowns and restrictions triggered by COVID-19 effects necessitate from governments in ensuring food that is sufficient in quantities, adequate in quality and supplied through food supply chains from domestic markets, food imports or food reserves. It is also important to improve food security through efficient local production and reduced losses and wastes, particularly post-harvest losses that affect mainly smallholder farmers. Reducing losses would result in greater food availability and accessibility for entire communities.
- Agricultural development is the basis for food security in a country. In other words, agricultural development is critically important for improving food security and nutrition, that include: increasing the quantity and diversity of food; driving economic transformation; and providing the primary source of income for many vulnerable groups. For them, agriculture is their main source of income and employment. Therefore, agricultural development shall be integral part of strategies on food security.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

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KEYWORDS

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy |
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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/AGENDA-14-July-Conference.pdf>
- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/LIST-of-PARTICIPANTS.pdf>
- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/IOFS-Recommendations-to-UN-FSS.pdf>

RELEVANT LINKS

- **Video-recording of the Conference**
https://www.iofs.org.kz/video/dZe-RhF4_-E