

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 7 July 2021 09:30 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	“Transforming to more efficient and sustainable food systems in light of crises”
CONVENED BY	His Excellency, Eng. Khaled Hnaifat, Minister of Agriculture
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/31771/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Jordan

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

33

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18 1 19-30 24 31-50 6 51-65 2 66-80 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

20 Male 13 Female Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

16	Agriculture/crops	2	Education		Health care
	Fish and aquaculture		Communication	3	Nutrition
3	Livestock		Food processing		National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
1	Environment and ecology		Food industry	3	Industrial
1	Trade and commerce		Financial Services	4	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	1	Workers and trade union
	Large national business	1	Member of Parliament
	Multi-national corporation	1	Local authority
	Small-scale farmer	17	Government and national institution
	Medium-scale farmer		Regional economic community
3	Large-scale farmer	3	United Nations
	Local Non-Governmental Organization		International financial institution
	International Non-Governmental Organization		Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
	Indigenous People	1	Consumer group
3	Science and academia	3	Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The Dialogue has been characterized by wide and effective participation of all stakeholders concerned with the issue related to food systems and at various stages of preparation, organization and participation. The participants represented all spectrum and working groups related to food security and food systems, including the public sector, the private sector, civil society organizations, donors, United Nations organizations, universities and others. In the meeting, all objectives and mechanisms of work, in particular, the workgroups, facilitators and other members were introduced. The work of the groups was also facilitated and accelerated through the guidance of the facilitators and the Curators. Each group answered specific questions by reaching a unanimous agreement among the members. Consequently, each group presented the work results to the members of the other groups for discussion. Finally, the Curators summarized the results of the dialogue and presented it to all participants, who in turn made their remarks and comments on them. The dialogue embraced the Summit principles of engagement: Act with Urgency, commit to the Summit, Be Respectful, Recognize Complexity, Embrace Multi-Stakeholder Inclusivity, Complement the Work of Others, and Build Trust.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The issues concerning age, gender and geographical distribution have been also taken into consideration. At an early stage, communication and preparatory meetings were held with the stakeholders, and everyone was informed of the objectives, ways and means of holding the dialogue, the requirements for preparing and the success thereof. The dialogue program generally included a short opening session in which representatives of the relevant UN organizations participated (including, the Acting Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator to Jordan in Amman, the United Nations World Food Programme Representative and Country Director in Jordan and the Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Jordan), in addition to the sponsor of the dialogue, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Agriculture, representing the Minister of Agriculture, the National Convenor of Food Systems Summit Dialogues in Jordan.

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

The most important step in preparing for convening the national and subnational dialogues is ensuring that no one is left behind, by inviting all stakeholders who should participate and identifying the most influential topics on food systems in the country. It is important to encourage women and youth to express their opinions freely and inform them that their views are important. Ensuring that the dialogue will be built on the principles of the summit of participation, which include act with urgency, commit to the Summit, Be Respectful, Recognize Complexity, Embrace Multi-Stakeholder Inclusivity, Complement the Work of Others, and Build Trust.

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

Dialogue Focus and Outcomes:

The national dialogue complemented the regional dialogues and built upon them. The regional dialogues focused on issues related to the dialogue pathways while the national dialogue focused on issues that reflect the priorities and specificity of Jordan and are directly related to food systems and food security.

In this context, "Transformation to more efficient and sustainable food systems amid crises" was identified as a title for the national dialogue, which is in consistent with the objectives of the Food Systems Summit, and its discussion forms the basis for setting up the roadmap for the transformation of food systems in line with national objectives and sustainable development goals. Five main topics/issues have been identified to be discussed by the groups, are as follow:

1. Refugees and food systems
2. Water scarcity and food systems
3. Coronavirus and food systems
4. Rural poor, smallholding farmers and food systems
5. Price fluctuations and food systems

Each group was requested to answer the following questions:

1. What are the related problems and challenges?
2. Mechanisms and means for facing and overcoming problems and challenges?
3. The most important policies and recommendations proposed to create change/transformation.

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

Main Findings:

The National dialogue has led to a set of results and conclusions that are directly related to the themes discussed which can be summarized as follows:

- 1- Food system transformation requires the participation of all stakeholders at all stages, mainly the private sector, women, youth, and the most vulnerable groups. Also, building effective partnerships is a necessity among stakeholders so that everyone is committed to providing and creating a supportive environment.
- 2- The presence of high rates of refugees in Jordan, severe water scarcity, the spread of the Covid-19, poverty, factors of climate change, and global price fluctuations are considered factors that put pressure on the Jordanian economy and pose additional challenges facing the food system transformation.
- 3- The restructuring of the institutional and legislative systems regulating work and functions should be reconsidered. Further, harmonization and consistency should be achieved between national and sectoral policies and strategies in line with international goals and frameworks.
- 4- The highest levels of efficiency in the use of available resources should be achieved, as well as strengthen the Water-Energy-Food Nexus.
- 5- The need to pay special attention and provide the necessary support to smallholding farmers, producers, and disadvantaged groups through safety networks, concessional financing, awareness-raising, training and encouraging collective and cooperative work among them.
- 6- The need to pay more attention to applied research, adopt new technologies and innovation, identifying imbalances in food systems, and ways to address them, developing school curricula and conducting awareness and education campaigns.
- 7- Improving livelihoods, creating job opportunities, and attracting investment as basic levers for the transformation process.
- 8- Building effective monitoring, follow-up and evaluation systems, adopting smart and suitable indicators to measure progress and efficiency in resource use.
- 9- The need to identify the Champions of Change and investing on them at all levels.
- 10- The necessity of creating a clear roadmap and objectives for transforming towards effective and sustainable food systems in Jordan.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Outcomes For Each Discussion Topics:

Group 1 and 4 (Refugees+ Rural poor and smallholding farmers)

1. Give preference in the field of trade to countries hosting refugees.
2. Empower the host countries with the Global Best Practices in food systems and technology.
3. Direct investment to support economic systems and food processing.
4. Direct international aid to the host countries to keep pace with the challenges facing agriculture.
5. Simplify the procedure for employing refugees, organizing their work in the agricultural sector, benefiting from the advantages in investing them in work.
6. Support small holding farmers with project in field of achieving the food basket, as well as refugees to be engaged in these projects.
7. Encourage rural household agricultural projects to ensure family self-sufficiency and food basket.
8. Utilize lands extended on the outskirts of the governorates, and encourage small holding farmers and poor (rural poor) to exploit these lands.
9. Provide social protection systems for farmers.
10. Link smallholding farmers to markets.
11. Train, empower and educate rural poor and farmers.

Group 2 : (Water Scarcity)

1. Managing surface water and distributing it to agricultural units according to the real crop needs.
2. Increase water-use efficiency.
3. Water harvesting, seawater desalination and the use of saline groundwater.
4. Draft legislation to establish decentralized treatment plants (grey water) at all levels.
5. Expand of connecting homes to the sewage system- current coverage rate is 65%.
6. Integrate water harvest measures in the building code in all governorates of the Kingdom.
7. Increase reliance on alternative energy sources for pumping water.
8. Use sustainable agricultural methods- rationalizing water use.
9. Implement and follow-up legislation governing drilling unlicensed wells.
10. Reduce the cultivation of high water requirement crops and replace them with low water requirement crops.
11. Set up the infrastructure to increase access to rainfall regions to facilitate agriculture.
12. Shift to hydroponics.
13. Optimal use of fertilizers and pesticides and control of agricultural chemicals use.
14. Raise awareness of farmers-growing crops with low water requirements, water-use efficiency, by implementing pilot projects to put ideas into practice.
15. Irrigation water management at the farm level.
16. Exploit border (shared) water.
17. Reduce groundwater use for agricultural purposes.

Group 3 & 5: (COVID + Price fluctuations)

1. Increase storage capacities, and strengthen the supply chain to reduce price fluctuations.
2. Implement and activate early warning system fully in all state institutions.
3. Establish a national sea carrier company to meet the expected transportation challenges.
4. Direct subsidy to private sector in order to support the basic commodities to face challenges and provide a financial reserve to face price fluctuations.
5. Raise the self-sufficiency rate of basic commodities produced locally and strengthen local economies and small rural holdings.
6. Update the food chain database for basic commodities and link it to the private sector.
7. Support the value chain of local commodities and establish large-scale competitive projects.
8. Review and standardize legislation relating to production costs and local product protection
9. Enhance international and regional cooperation to ensure the easy flow of food commodities.
10. Regulate agricultural production to ensure the promotion and support of deficit crops.
11. Support the provision of local production inputs for existing industries manufactured from local raw materials.
12. Raise farmers' awareness of the need to change consumption patterns.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Areas Of Divergence:

During the dialogue discussions, many differences emerged in concepts, viewpoints, and methods and means of effective resolution. The following are the most important of them:

1. Confusion between food systems and food security and their linkages.
2. Some strength points may be weaknesses, as well as some challenges may constitute opportunities and vice versa.
3. The nature and powers of the institutional structure to supervise and monitor the progress.
4. The refugee crisis is a protracted crisis and dealing therewith as the international support declined.
5. Evolution of the Coronavirus and what's next.
6. Agricultural water quality and transforming to non-fresh water for agriculture.
7. Import policies and protection of domestic production.
8. Subsidy, and fair distribution and efficiency thereof.
9. Transformation from where to where?
10. Food system borders, where does it begin? and where does it end?
11. The importance of regional cooperation.

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