

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 13 July 2021 08:30 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	KENYA AGROECOLOGY ANCHOR HUB SACLING UP AGROECOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS
CONVENED BY	MS. ROSINAH MBENYA, COUNTRY COORDINATOR, PELUM KENYA
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/32909/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Kenya

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

83

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-18	14	19-30	43	31-50	23	51-65	3	66-80	0	80+
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PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

50	Male	33	Female	0	Prefer not to say or Other
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

45	Agriculture/crops	5	Education	1	Health care
0	Fish and aquaculture	5	Communication	1	Nutrition
3	Livestock	3	Food processing	4	National or local government
13	Agro-forestry	9	Food retail, markets	0	Utilities
8	Environment and ecology		Food industry	0	Industrial
1	Trade and commerce	1	Financial Services	0	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

4	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	0	Workers and trade union
0	Large national business	1	Member of Parliament
0	Multi-national corporation	1	Local authority
15	Small-scale farmer	2	Government and national institution
3	Medium-scale farmer	0	Regional economic community
0	Large-scale farmer	0	United Nations
45	Local Non-Governmental Organization	0	International financial institution
2	International Non-Governmental Organization	4	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
13	Indigenous People	3	Consumer group
5	Science and academia		Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

With the commitment to promote agroecology, Kenya Agroecology Anchor Hub members in collaboration with PELUM Kenya and Manor House organised an independent food system dialogues under the theme: Agroecology for Sustainable Food System, to contribute to the outcome of the UN food system summit. To ensure multi stakeholder inclusivity, the independent dialogues participant were drawn from: small holder farmers, civil society organisations, ministry of agriculture fisheries and livestock, research institution (KALRO), Academia, international NGOs, traders among others. The dialogues was divided into thematic sections: climate change and agriculture, seeds and genetic resources, participatory research and dissemination, global food trade, COVID 19 effect on food systems, water governance, ownership and food transformation, investment in sustainable agriculture. Each theme had presenters from diverse sector and panel discussions were held followed with question and answers. The dialogue also had breakout session for small groups discussion based on the themes. Each session had a facilitator/moderator. After the breakout session, each theme brief the meeting on their key outcome.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Kenya Agroecology Anchor Hub, recognised the urgency to have a sustainable and more resilient food systems at all level in order to achieve SDG by 2030. The dialogue was conducted in a professional manner which was guided by facilitators, with presentations that were backed with research findings and facts. The Kenya Agroecology Anchor hub partners and stakeholders represented promotes agroecology for production of safe foods, improve the health and well-being of individuals, enhance resilient livelihoods and communities and promote good stewardship of natural resources, while respecting local cultures. Food system very complex and therefore, the Kenya agroecology anchor hub, formulated different thematic areas to guide the discussion. The dialogue participants were drawn from: small holder farmers, traders, processors, academia, local and international civil society, government representatives and government research institutions and media. The final recommendations to UNFSS was read to the participant and they endorsed and their organizations listed as per the attached.

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

The principles of the engagement supported to ensure inclusivity i.e no one left out and build trust and commitment towards a transformative food system. Early planning and engagement with facilitators and presenter supported in saving time and ensured flow of information.

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

1. The urgency to increase in budgeting and focus on agroecology at all levels of governance including donor funding and government funding
2. Sustainable agriculture practices for climate change adaptation and mitigation
3. Seeds and genetic resources ;the critical role that indigenous seeds play in promoting and conserving our genetic resources
4. Participatory research and dissemination and embrace the idea and practice of Farmer Research Networks (FRNs), where adaptive learning, diverse evidence such as farmer's traditional and Indigenous knowledge, and the recognition that holistic understanding of food systems impacts are all essential
5. Water governance : concerted efforts towards conserving and maintaining our water resources through a participatory ecosystem-based approach
6. Participation and Local ownership of farmers need as the centre of Food Systems Transformation In the spirit of "leave no one behind", and localization, it is key to have local ownership of food system transformation
7. Promotion of nutrient-dense, whole-food diets underpinned by diversified food production adapted to different microclimates and sociocultural contexts
8. integration, participatory and rights-based approaches to governance and policymaking at all levels to address the structural inequities and power imbalances in food systems.
9. Global food trade and its implications to the principles of food sovereignty and local sustainability
10. COVID 19 pandemic implications to Regional and National Food Security and Food supply chains are

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

Aware that the world is not on track to achieve SDG 2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture” because more than 690 million people are still facing hunger, and 2 billion people do not have access to adequate, safe and nutritious food.

Recognizing that agriculture plays a fundamental role in ensuring the right to food to all, mitigating climate change, and promoting employment and social stability. However, industrial agriculture with its narrative centred on increasing productivity to feed the growing population and solving the problem of hunger in the poorest countries is responsible for biodiversity loss, environmental pollution, and grabbing of natural resources, including more and more land for non-food production (biofuel, feed for intensive livestock, carbon sequestration).

Concerned that the corporate sector is using its economic power to influence the public policy sphere to see its vision endorsed and supported by public policies. They promote business-led solutions to hunger (patents, hybrid seeds, GMOs, pesticides and fertilizers, the inclusion of farmers into the global value chain, climate-smart agriculture and sustainable intensification, food fortification, precision agriculture). While they are part of the problem, they offer false solutions they mask with a new face maybe mention one or two strategies pushed forward in this masked mode

Conscious that the food systems transformation agenda is long overdue, and many social movements have been fighting for systemic and structural transformation of food systems, stressing the urgent need for a radical shift from fossil fuel-based industrial agriculture and corporate monopolies of food and agriculture to food sovereignty and agroecology.

UNFSS should acknowledge that the potential of agroecology as the basis for sustainability is now widely recognized alongside the role that small scale farmers play in food security and indigenous knowledge systems

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

1. INVESTING IN AGROECOLOGY

We urge the UNFSS to call for an urgent increase in budgeting and focus on agroecology at all levels of governance including donor funding and government funding. The time is now for deliberate and increased financing, investments in agroecology for the health of the planet and people.

2. AGROECOLOGY FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

Agriculture contributes to 24% of the total greenhouse gases emission while at the same time agriculture is the backbone of most African Countries. Realizing the global trends of climate change, we call upon the UNFSS to prioritize agroecology as a major strategy for addressing climate change in sustainable Agricultural systems. Adopting agroecology practices will mitigate the effects of climate change by reducing dependency on fossil fuels and enhancing carbon sequestration. Agroecological practices enhance farms and communities' resilience to climate-related disasters and risks.

3. SEED AND GENETIC RESOURCES

While SDG 2, Target 2.5 calls for maintaining the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants, and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, we call for urgent attention to the critical role that indigenous seeds play in promoting and conserving our genetic resources. We, therefore, call for enhanced recognition and protection of farmer-managed seed systems including enabling legislative environments. We also call for stricter adherence to the safeguards enshrined in the Convention on Biological Diversity and its expansion to regulate new bioengineered technologies because of unforeseeable off-target effects, patent, and ethical issues associated with this evolving science.

4. PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH & DISSEMINATION

We call upon the UNFSS to embrace the idea and practice of Farmer Research Networks (FRNs), where adaptive learning, diverse evidence such as farmer's traditional and Indigenous knowledge, and the recognition that holistic understanding of food systems impacts are all essential. This should also include well-planned participatory methodologies of disseminating research findings coming from undertaking research based on community needs

5. WATER GOVERNANCE

We realize that sustainable Agriculture is dependent on water resources. We urge deliberate and concerted efforts towards conserving and maintaining our water resources through a participatory ecosystem-based approach.

6. PARTICIPATION AND OWNERSHIP OF FOOD TRANSFORMATION PROCESS

Participation and Local ownership of farmers need to be at the centre of Food Systems Transformation In the spirit of "leave no one behind", and localization, it is key to have local ownership of food system transformation

7. PROMOTE NUTRIENT-DENSE, SOCIOCULTURAL DIETS

Promote nutrient-dense, whole-food diets underpinned by diversified food production adapted to different microclimates and sociocultural contexts. Create positive food environments that provide equitable access, healthy dietary guidance, controls on food advertising and marketing especially to children, a precautionary approach to new products, and special consideration for vulnerable groups and women's role as agents of change.

8. PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

Ensure integrated, participatory, rights-based approaches to governance and policymaking at all levels to address the structural inequities and power imbalances in food systems. Build processes and policy platforms on democratic principles, transparent deliberations, shared power, and inclusive participation to ensure that policies are driven not only by evidence but also by ethics and the broader public interest.

9. : GLOBAL FOOD TRADE

World Trade Organisation (WTO) Global food trade is against the principles of food sovereignty and local sustainability. There is a need to build sustainable local food production systems first. We, therefore, call upon the UNFSS to recognize local food sufficiency as the basis of national food security

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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

NONE

ACTION TRACKS

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

- Finance
- Innovation
- Human rights
- Women & Youth Empowerment
- Policy
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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/KENYA-AGROECOLOGY-ANCHOR-HUB-CALL-TO-ACTION-TO-UNFSS.pdf>