

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

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| DIALOGUE DATE | Thursday, 15 July 2021 09:50 GMT +02:00 |
| DIALOGUE TITLE | Pathways of creating sustainable food systems and building resilience to shocks and hazards among small scale farmers. |
| CONVENED BY | Mr Kudakwashe Zombe, Zimbabwe Civil Society Organizations Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance |
| DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE | https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/33131/ |
| DIALOGUE TYPE | Independent |
| GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS | Zimbabwe |

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

38

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18 14 19-30 16 31-50 7 51-65 1 66-80 0 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

22 Male 16 Female 0 Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------|----|------------------------------|
| 2 | Agriculture/crops | 2 | Education | 2 | Health care |
| 1 | Fish and aquaculture | 0 | Communication | 3 | Nutrition |
| 1 | Livestock | 0 | Food processing | 1 | National or local government |
| 0 | Agro-forestry | 3 | Food retail, markets | 1 | Utilities |
| 1 | Environment and ecology | 0 | Food industry | 0 | Industrial |
| 0 | Trade and commerce | 0 | Financial Services | 21 | Other |

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

| | | | |
|---|---|----|---|
| 0 | Small/medium enterprise/artisan | 0 | Workers and trade union |
| 0 | Large national business | 0 | Member of Parliament |
| 0 | Multi-national corporation | 0 | Local authority |
| 2 | Small-scale farmer | 20 | Government and national institution |
| 0 | Medium-scale farmer | 0 | Regional economic community |
| 0 | Large-scale farmer | 0 | United Nations |
| 4 | Local Non-Governmental Organization | 1 | International financial institution |
| 0 | International Non-Governmental Organization | 1 | Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance |
| 2 | Indigenous People | 0 | Consumer group |
| 0 | Science and academia | 8 | Other |

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The Zimbabwe Civil Society Organisations Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance (ZCSOSUNA) embraced all principles of engagement in a UN food Systems dialogue that it hosted on Thursday, 15 July 2021. ZCSOSUNA is the advocacy arm of the Scaling Up Nutrition movement in Zimbabwe and seeks to support food and nutrition related summits such as the Food Systems summit. This dialogue brought together a diversified group of stakeholders from Mutoko district to discuss pathways of creating sustainable food systems and building resilience to shocks and hazards among scale farmers in the district. The discussion targeted members of an already existing multi-stakeholder government platform known as the Food and Nutrition Security Committee. This committee comprises of officials from government ministries and departments including Agriculture, Health and Disaster risk reduction and non-governmental organisations working in the district to support government efforts in combating malnutrition and improving food security. Participants set out a number of ground rules which were adhered to during the meeting, one of the ground rules was the need to respect each other's views. This rule activated lively participation from all participants during the engagement. Participants were also encouraged to be open in their views as the discussion was confidential though findings from the discussion would be made public. After the compilation of the main points of discussion and completion of the facilitator feedback form minutes of the meeting were shared with the district team for its validation.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

ZCSOSUNA convened the dialogue with a multi stakeholder government platform that has been working in the food and nutrition security field for quite some time. It was hoped that in engaging this platform the network will fully understand the situation on how small scale farmers can contribute towards sustainable food systems as well as how development partners together with the government can contribute towards building their resilience in the era of climate change and disasters. Engaging with a multi stakeholder government platform also contributed towards complementing the work being done by the different sectors as the team openly shared opportunities on how they can improve sustainability in agriculture production.

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

It is crucial to bring together a wide range of participants from across various sectors, if the convener wants to have an in-depth understanding of solutions to the topic that will be under discussion. There is also need to ensure adequate time is allocated to the participants if a larger group is to be engaged in the dialogue.

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

The dialogue title for this particular meeting was Pathways of creating sustainable food systems and building resilience to shocks and hazards among small scale farmers in Mutoko district. It enabled the network to identify challenges being experienced by small scale farmers in their contribution to the country's food systems and in addition it also provided opportunities for solutions to the identified as a means of addressing the challenges. Although the dialogue focused on a specific geographical area, it explored challenges that are likely to affect many small scale farmers across the country and in the region.

The major focus for the dialogue was aimed at discussing all the action tracks with a bias towards action tracks 1, 4 and 5. Sector representatives were given opportunities to share challenges and possible solutions to the current food systems from their individual perspectives in a plenary session. Case studies of actions being implemented in different wards were shared as presenters pooled their experiences. After the presentations other participants would then ask questions and share their constructive comments and recommendations. In summary the group prioritized three main areas that governments and stakeholders need to address in solving challenges that were identified.

I. Increased government and donor investments in enhanced research and development programs to support disaster risk reduction and resilience mechanisms.

II. Continuous learning and experimentation on disasters, crop varieties, resistant livestock and social-ecological systems.

III. Policy consistency in all sectors involved in food production, processing, marketing and consumption.

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

There is an urgent need to increase the number and effectiveness of agriculture innovation hubs and research centers across the nation.

Upscale irrigation facilities by utilizing available water bodies or constructing of new ones, new technologies need to be used in drawing and conserving water for agriculture purposes.

Governments need to make informed decisions in the promotion and adoption of research which improves seed and animal varieties.

Ensure that stress tolerant and high yielding crop varieties and stress tolerant animal breeds are developed if agriculture is to be sustainable.

Adopt modern housing and road infrastructure adapted for climate change as a way of reducing shocks and hazards which may affect farmers in a disaster.

Governments need to use a spectrum of policies from voluntary to mandatory which include laws, acts or statutes in ensuring that people have physical and economic access to nutritious foods.

Enforcement of such policies is crucial in achieving a healthy and sustainable food system that benefits all.

Incentives/disincentives such as taxes and subsidies need to be put in place as a way of promoting the consumption of nutritious diets.

Consistency in policies around the whole food systems is also key in promoting, protecting and supporting the consumption of nutritious foods by the general populace.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

ACTION TRACKS

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KEYWORDS

- | | |
|--|--|
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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Local investments in strengthening social protection delivery systems including shock responsiveness and livelihood opportunities for the poor and vulnerable groups' remains very low. Disaster Risk Reduction Committees remain underfunded and even in natural disasters they fail to effectively respond and assist victims because they do not have adequate resources. It was argued that DRR committees in many parts of the country do not need much resources because disasters are not a common phenomenon in the country instead the country needs to invest in early warning systems so that victims are evacuated early and response teams are equipped ahead of time.

Focus of sustainable food systems in the country is mainly focusing on foods that are perceived by many people as modern. There is need to shift the focus to traditional and even genetically modified foods so that the agriculture sector will be able to meet demand. However, socio-cultural and economic factors also play a role on how foods are perceived there is need to continuously educate the populace on the need to consume nutritious diets.

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