

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

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| DIALOGUE DATE | Wednesday, 19 May 2021 15:00 GMT +00:00 |
| DIALOGUE TITLE | Event #6 - UN Food Systems Summit Champion Network Panel Series: Agroecological and Regenerative Solutions for Stronger Communities |
| CONVENED BY | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Food Tank, and the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, and in partnership with the UN Food System Summit (UN FSS) Champions Network. |
| DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE | https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/36602/ |
| DIALOGUE TYPE | Independent |
| GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS | No borders |

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

999

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?

Dialogues were organized to incorporate, reinforce and enhance the principles by always including a diverse group of stakeholders, to ensure that multiple perspectives were acknowledged and able to communicate with one another. These dialogues also recognized the importance of collaboration between stakeholders, encouraging a complementary approach, which fostered new connections.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

This dialogue facilitated respectful discussions between members of multiple stakeholder groups. The diversity of stakeholders was embraced, and various topics including Indigenous knowledge, cultural insights and science-based evidence were able to be explored as a result. Various speakers were able to voice their opinions about policy design options. These dialogues also recognized the complexity of food systems, by acknowledging that humans, animals, land, water, climate and the ecology and economic systems are all interconnected and fundamental to creating resilient, equitable food systems.

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

Designing sessions on the principles of diversity and inclusion from the outset helped to create dialogues that provided an opportunity for different stakeholders to connect across issue and sector silos, share perspectives and elevate areas of convergence and divergence.

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

Speakers in the live dialogues were enthusiastic and curious to connect with one another from their respective locations and subject matter areas. Aided by the facilitators, connections were made throughout the conversation in order to point to areas of convergence, while it was acknowledged that tensions would always exist and require further dialogue and engagement to further unpack the issues and perspectives at play.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

Co-organized by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Food Tank, and Global Alliance for the Future of Food, and in partnership with the UN Food System Summit (UNFSS) Champions Network, presented seven-panel discussions (running one event each month from January to June 2021) focusing on how to transform the world's food systems. Each virtual series explored one of the Global Alliance's seven Calls to Action and brought together more than 25+ UNFSS Champion speakers worldwide, including world-renowned activists, journalists, business leaders, farmers, policy and technical experts, and many others. Each conversation will help set the stage and identify critical pathways to create a better future of food and strengthen our global food systems for the upcoming UNFSS in September 2021.

The sixth event highlighted the Global Alliance's call to action: creating enabling environments for agroecology and regenerative approaches where investments can flourish and benefit all. This overlaps with action track #3, as it connects to nature-positive production. The discussion focused on ways to enable these practices through investment, education, advocacy, and government. Each participant brought a unique perspective to this challenge. This discussion aims to understand the ways that enabling environments can be created, the actions to be taken, what are the obstacles in the way, what are the dominant narratives that influence decision making, what are the knowledge gaps that need to be filled and how do we create the political will where agroecological innovation can flourish.

The event is part of a series of panels with themes inspired by Global Alliance's Seven Calls to Action to transform the food system. Moderated by Ruth Richardson, Executive Director of the Global Alliance and Danielle Nierenberg, President of Food Tank, each conversation features members of the United Nations Food Systems Champions Network.

Helena Leurent of Consumers International explained that greater awareness among consumers can change dietary preferences in favour of sustainable agriculture. Vijay Kumar of RySS, India, described the pivotal roles of both government investment and grassroots, women-led collectives in increasing access to sustainable agriculture practices. Denisa Livingston of the Diné Community Advocacy Alliance and Slow Food International provided a reminder of the importance of Indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge in creating more sustainable food systems. Lana Weidgenant of Zero Hour International highlighted the importance of young people to the future of both climate activism and agriculture, and argued that agroecology has promise to improve youth participation in agriculture. Finally, Emile Frison of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES-Food) presented some of the most challenging obstacles to creating policies which favour agroecology and sustainable food production, including poor awareness among policy makers and the profit-driven nature of the agricultural sector, and stressed the need for a paradigm shift in our thinking about food systems.

ACTION TRACKS

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input 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 checked="" 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

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Policy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Data & Evidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Human rights | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Governance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trade-offs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environment and Climate |

MAIN FINDINGS

Key Findings:

Panellists believed that knowledge bases on agroecology must be shared with policymakers, who can support and help scale up agroecology and regenerative approaches.

They discussed the need for strong connections between various generations, countries and sectors in order to scale-up agroecological practices.

Some panellists found that government financing and investments from philanthropists can aid in the transformation. For better transformation, it was found that healing frameworks should be used and implementation of intergenerational knowledge and knowledge transfer.

Consumer advocacy groups have reached out to sustainable farmers in their respective countries and formed connections. Some consumer advocacy groups started to bring consumers into asking about where their food comes from, how their food is made, and where we are looking at substitutes for meat.

Overall, agroecology as a science and a movement is a transformative way to break out of many current crises afflicting the planet. One of the reasons that agroecology is so transformational is that it provides us multiple benefits from restoring ecosystems to building climate resilience, from ensuring food security and nutrition to promoting sustainable livelihoods, from protecting biodiversity to upholding human rights.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Discussion Topics:

Investment in ways that consumers receive information that helps them with their choices and helps them understand the way healthy diets and sustainability can be built.

The panelists argue that education at all levels is key.

Panelists emphasized the importance of knowledge that is held by and shared within Indigenous communities, recommending that a focus is put on intergenerational knowledge and the knowledge transfer that needs to occur from the elders to the youth.

A next step identified would be investment in ways that consumers receive information that helps them with their choices and helps them understand the way healthy diets and sustainability can be built.

Technology can be used to create awareness and sustainability and healthy diets. E-commerce provides greater reach to and for the consumer.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

All panelists agreed that it is important to support women, smallholder farmers, youth, and Indigenous peoples in agroecology.

Some participants argued that consumer demand promotes the uptake of regenerative farming while others emphasized that there is generally a limited understanding of the topic amongst consumers. However, all agreed that more education is needed to help the public understand the impacts of their purchasing decisions.

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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

RELEVANT LINKS

- **UN FSS Final Summary**
<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:d23b196f-b343-497e-9134-d2b73ca2b1c9#pageNum=1>
- **25+ Members of the UN Food Systems Champions Network**
<https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/event/25-members-of-the-un-food-systems-champions-network>