

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Saturday, 7 August 2021 09:00 GMT +04:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	The imperative of food and nutrition security and sovereignty; activating the bold steps - The perspective of the youth.
CONVENED BY	Mr Guy Pierre Morel
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/39299/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Seychelles

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

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

10 0-18 19-30 31-50 51-65 66-80 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

4 Male 6 Female Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

10	Agriculture/crops	10	Education	10	Health care
	Fish and aquaculture		Communication		Nutrition
	Livestock		Food processing		National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
	Environment and ecology		Food industry		Industrial
	Trade and commerce		Financial Services		Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

10	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	10	Workers and trade union
	Large national business		Member of Parliament
	Multi-national corporation		Local authority
	Small-scale farmer		Government and national institution
	Medium-scale farmer		Regional economic community
	Large-scale farmer		United Nations
	Local Non-Governmental Organization		International financial institution
	International Non-Governmental Organization		Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
	Indigenous People	10	Consumer group
	Science and academia		Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The dialogue started with a short introduction of the United Nations Food Systems Summit as part of a global initiative to transform and add more value and equity to the world food systems and to deliver the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 2, and the need to build a more robust food and nutrition security and sovereignty ecosystem. The participants were briefed about the strategy of involvement and participation in the form of broad spectrum national dialogues to harvest inputs to articulate the changes that must happen to the current food system at country level. The participants were guided to complete the UNFSS assigned Attendance Form during which time the Food Systems Summit Principles of Engagement were elaborated to provide a framework for convergence to purpose. The introduction concluded with a short presentation about Seychelles' current food system that was built from secondary data to provide a clear picture of the current state of affairs and to provide the participants with some background information as thought and discussion starters.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The relevant principles were intentionally repeated throughout the Dialogue to instill a sense of purpose and to encourage the participants to deeply reflect about the principles as motivational anchor points and drivers that underpin the change and transformation process that would be required to build a robust food defense strategy at country level.

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

The seven Food Systems Summit Principles of Engagement could evolve to become a generic/global framework of core values and principles with potential for inclusion in all Member States food defense strategy. This could become one of the strand (in the mix of strands) to self-perpetuate the longevity of the United Nations Food Systems Summit strategic intent.

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 subtheme of the third Dialogue was “Recalibrating food preferences and perception. How do we get the young people to consume more nutritious food and tackle the problem of youth obesity?”
The third subtheme is an extension of the second subtheme to deep dive into the pop culture of fast food, to better understand the drivers and motives for preferences for such food category, and what could be learnt to mitigate the risk of a significant distortion of the dietary preferences, increased dietary related diseases in the population which is already a major concern and the potential loss of food and culinary cultural heritage.

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

The participants debated and identified six main drivers that are influencing youth dietary preference in favour of the fast food category. These are:

- The high visibility, accessibility and affordability portions of fast food.
- Tuck shops and food vendors in the vicinity of schools do not offer sufficient alternative choices of dishes and servings.
- Inadequate youth engagement to participate in activations to promote local farm commodities and local cuisine.
- The higher price points of local farm commodities.
- Inadequate investment to promote local farm produce and cuisine.
- The adoption of open market policy and inadequate protection for small scale local producers.

The high visibility, accessibility and affordability portions of fast food is perceived as the main driver that is positioning the fast food category as the top of mind food option and which is influencing and shifting dietary choices in the young people segment of the population. The fact that tuck shops and food vendors in the vicinity of schools do not offer sufficient alternative choices of dishes and servings is seen as the accelerator for the growth of the fast food category. The same remark as flagged by the householders was made in that a do nothing position will continue to provide the space for the growth of junk food and the consequential associated dietary problems and other associated socioeconomic challenges. Young people influence young people, therefore the participation of the youth community to recalibrate dietary choices is considered as one of the critical success factors.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

The recommendations made by the youth group follow similar line of interventions as proposed by the householders.

There is an immediate need to activate a sustained national educational and marketing campaign to create more awareness of the superior nutritive value of local produce especially those that are cultivated under organic and natural farming system and to stimulate more interest in local cuisine. The campaign, communication channels and activities should be broad-base to target a mixed audience. The actions should include a mix of above and below the line interventions targeting schools as a primary group with a mix of formal and extracurricular messaging and activations, the use of social media as a low cost channel to deliver contents to all segments, food fairs and sampling experiential to influence preference and the appointment of influencers. The key actors could involve the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, NGOs and the private sector. In addition tuck shop owners, other food vendors and youth groups should form part of the campaign as they are major influencers. The need for the Seychelles National Youth Council to reactivate the youth entrepreneurship competition as part of the yearly Youth Festival was strongly supported.

Interestingly they also promoted the idea that small scale local producers should be accorded some form of protection against cheaper import substitutes and that the list of items that are protected under the fair and free trade agreements should be revisited.

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KEYWORDS

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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

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KEYWORDS

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