

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Monday, 9 August 2021 10:00 GMT +04:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	The imperative of food and nutrition security and sovereignty; making the bold steps - The perspective of members of the National Assembly
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Mr Guy Pierre Morel
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/39520/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/39520/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Member State
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	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

11

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

1

19-30

6

31-50

4

51-65

66-80

80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

6

Male

5

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

11 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

11 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?

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

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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 title of the subtheme of the fourth Dialogue was “From policy to legal instrument. Is there a need to elevate the food and nutrition security policy to the status of a legal instrument?”

The rationale to address the subtheme from policy to legal instrument is rooted in the need to have some form of consistency in policy objectives and some aspects of the strategic choices that underpin the controlled transformation of any system that spans a significant period of time. Therefore, the purpose of the Dialogue was to have a deep dive conversation with the representatives of the people to pulse their position, opinion and reasoning.

### 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

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy       |
| <input 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"/> Environment and Climate |

## MAIN FINDINGS

The eleven Members of the National Assembly who took part in the Dialogue expressed their unanimous support for the global initiative to rethink and transform the food systems to deliver the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 2 and to build a more robust food defense strategy for Seychelles. They showed their concerns with regard to the gaps that exist between the local food production capacity and the total volume of food consumed. They also expressed their intention to get closer to the agriculture sector and to help drive the imperative of food and nutrition security and sovereignty. They debated at length on the merits of elevating pivotal policy objectives and strategic choices in the form of a legal instrument. There was bipartisan alignment and agreement in favour of the proposal to draft a food defense bill to ensure adherence to plan and policy continuity.

The issue of what form of taxation policy should be applied to the agriculture sector was also debated. There was a general agreement that the sector activities should be taxed but a different taxation regime must be formulated and applied in synergy with the food self-sufficiency objectives.

Another subject that was discussed was the need to review the investment strategy to ensure that the sector receives a yearly minimum amount of investment to fund the sector CAPEX. They argued that this approach would facilitate sector development planning.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

The Members of the National Assembly made the following recommendations:

The Ministry with portfolio responsibility for food and nutrition security and sovereignty is welcome to present the food system transformation policy and strategy to the National Assembly for final discussion, alignment and consolidation.

The Executive should seriously reflex on and consider the proposal to formulate a food defense bill.

The Executive should consider an investment model based on a percentage of the sector contribution to GDP. There was a recommendation that the minimum investment should be 10% of the sector contribution to the country GDP.

The Executive should consider investing 25% of the annual sector investment budget in turn-key farms that would be allocated to young farmers.

There was a call for the establishment of an innovation trust fund that would drive sector innovation and transfer of technology similar to the SeyCCAT investment model.

There was a strong recommendation to formulate a separate taxation regime for agricultural activities to avoid the risk of taxation being seen as a growth barrier to the sector. There was strong support in favour of a flat single digit taxation rate on profit before tax.

It was also suggested the specific regulations that regulate food standard and advertising should be reviewed to protect consumers from food additives and rogue advertisement and promotion.

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## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

### ACTION TRACKS

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