

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 5 August 2021 09:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Ensuring Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All - How Have we Fared?
CONVENED BY	Ms Mmadima Hilda Nyathi
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/40154/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Botswana

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

98

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18 16 19-30 33 31-50 44 51-65 5 66-80 0 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

42 Male 56 Female Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

35	Agriculture/crops	9	Education	0	Health care
0	Fish and aquaculture	2	Communication	1	Nutrition
16	Livestock	4	Food processing	8	National or local government
1	Agro-forestry	0	Food retail, markets	0	Utilities
1	Environment and ecology	2	Food industry	1	Industrial
1	Trade and commerce	5	Financial Services	8	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

16	Small/medium enterprise/artisan	2	Workers and trade union
1	Large national business	0	Member of Parliament
0	Multi-national corporation	3	Local authority
19	Small-scale farmer	25	Government and national institution
9	Medium-scale farmer	0	Regional economic community
0	Large-scale farmer	3	United Nations
4	Local Non-Governmental Organization	0	International financial institution
0	International Non-Governmental Organization	0	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
1	Indigenous People	1	Consumer group
11	Science and academia	3	Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

A diverse range of stakeholders interacted to form opinions highlighted in this track submission. Every opinion was recognised for the transformation and success of Botswana food systems. The aim of such a multi-faceted approach was the recognition that food systems are complex and require a systemic approach. The desire is to transform our consultations from previously parallel approaches to inclusive and participatory approaches that improve the already established processes of governance and allow the formation of new ones. Through this process, priorities of action were identified.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Participants were from different sectors and stakeholder groups, and from different age categories.

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

Embracing the principles ensures collective accountability and collective action by all. It also creates a sense of ownership among different stakeholders, with regards to the priorities identified for action.

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 focus was organised around the objectives of Track 1 – ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all. National policies and programs that are related to Track 1 were discussed considering the food system in Botswana. Challenges were identified and solutions for bridging the gaps were recommended.

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

Organisation of players in the food system: Create organisations for farmers/processors/transporters/vendors and others for efficiency of pathways. Re-design the existing associations. Botswana to look at how to increase productivity in the livestock sector given the limited resources such as land and water. Educate farmers on how to sustainably produce with limited resources.

Access to markets: infrastructural development (roads. Electricity, water and market infrastructure) and improved communication (networks). Creation of a transportation network to ensure that food gets delivered fresh and does not lose the nutritional value. Government, private (PPP) sector and farmers can also collaborate to build storage facilities at remote production areas.

Policies and standards: Formulate nutrition policy. Review and update the existing policies. Centralisation of food standards at Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) for all sectors. All stakeholders to be accountable to the implementation and conditions set out in the policies.

Extension services: Intensify monitoring of primary production and update skills of extension officers.

Food street vendors: Policies should be made to govern street vendors on nutrition and safety.

Nutrition education: Teach farmers on proper farming, harvesting, storage and packaging to ensure that food arrives at markets in good condition. Incorporate nutrition in the curriculum from early childhood. Public education on how to eat balanced diets and the importance of serving portions/sizes. Encourage consumption of indigenous food.

Home-grown school feeding programs: It would be ideal for schools to source food from local farmers, following the consumption patterns of each area.

Value chains: Identify and assist farmers who can make a difference by producing enough food for fresh supply and processing. Target the whole value chain - from inputs to processing. Government should provide sufficient grants to farmers to help them buy implements.

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KEYWORDS

	Finance	✓	Policy
✓	Innovation		Data & Evidence
	Human rights		Governance
	Women & Youth Empowerment	✓	Trade-offs
			Environment and Climate

OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

It is clear from the discussions that transforming food systems requires resources such as water, land, infrastructure (e.g. road networks and storage facilities) and implements to build strong value chains. The need for cohesion through farmers' groups was also highlighted. Upgrading the skills and education of farmers and extension officers is also important. Incorporation of nutrition in production and processing activities is crucial as well as educating the public in good nutrition practices.

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

None

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