

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 26 July 2022 08:30 GMT +03:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Symposium on Food System Dialogues in Yemen - Action Track 1: Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all
CONVENED BY	Mr. Abdullah Hassan Al-Shater - Deputy Minister of Development Plans and Programs , Ministry of Planning
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/50868/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Member State
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Yemen

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

51

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18

04 19-30

35 31-50

12 51-65

0 66-80

0 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

37 Male

14 Female

0 Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

8 Agriculture/crops

4 Fish and aquaculture

1 Livestock

1 Agro-forestry

3 Environment and ecology

3 Trade and commerce

4 Education

4 Communication

3 Food processing

2 Food retail, markets

5 Food industry

2 Financial Services

1 Health care

2 Nutrition

35 National or local government

0 Utilities

4 Industrial

0 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

1 Large national business

0 Multi-national corporation

4 Small-scale farmer

1 Medium-scale farmer

2 Large-scale farmer

4 Local Non-Governmental Organization

0 International Non-Governmental Organization

51 Indigenous People

3 Science and academia

6 Workers and trade union

2 Member of Parliament

1 Local authority

35 Government and national institution

0 Regional economic community

4 United Nations

0 International financial institution

0 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

3 Consumer group

0 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

Act with urgency: The discussions were focused on the most urgent interventions specially that Yemen has many competing priorities. This was ensured by setting these priorities at the beginning of the event and then elaborating on the actions to address them. Commit to the Summit was ensured through developing the event's materials (the presentations and working groups' tools). The contents were taken from the vision and objectives of the Food Systems Summit. Also, the outcomes of the event was aligned and connected with the expected outcomes of the Food Systems Summit. All the participants are technical people with close perspectives to the local dynamics, culture and contexts. The participants were encouraged to be mindful to the practical solutions and game-changers with relevance to the local capacities, dynamics, culture and contexts. Recognize complexity was critical through linking the direct and underlying causes and taking into consideration the impact on human, animals, marine and plants. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity was reflected through looking into the topics from multi-sectoral approach. Complement the work of others was ensured through supporting the existing mechanisms and systems and making sure they are strengthening. Build trust is the core of the dialogues. The proposed national coalitions are space for trust-building approach

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Trust building is the first step in Yemen. Not only between the government actors but also between the government and partners from the national NGOs and business sector as well as the UN and INGOs

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

These principles should be translated into actions and implementing mechanisms.

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 main focus is on exploring game-changing solutions which will be collected and developed through the three work streams of the AT1 and tailored to local contexts, including cultural, social and economic aspects, the specific political economy of food, how food systems function, the existence and level of implementation of policies and regulations, institutional capacities and constraints on the ability of consumers on changing what they eat.
The problem to be addressed: Translating solutions into collaborative actions to support the resilience of food systems in Yemen with focus on:

- Fostering investment in holistic food systems approaches that address the prosperity of people and the environment in Yemen;
- Addressing inequalities – structural, social and gender – in access to and use of resources, knowledge, assets, technology and markets/value chains;
- Strengthen the capacity and resources of farmers, women, youth and micro, small and medium enterprises to effectively participate along the entire food system from production to consumption, providing them with the tools, techniques and advisory services needed to enhance their engagement with the private sector;
- Managing risk and security at all levels - the individual, society, government and systems;
- Coordinating policies, programs and investments (including aid) among all stakeholders, with governments at the fore;
- Explore blended finance and public-private partnerships (PPP) to mobilize funding for under-resourced initiatives to bring about positive change in food systems;
- Enabling systems to mitigate instability, shocks and stresses;
- Develop monitoring and evaluation systems to monitor, measure and evaluate interventions;
- Identify harmful agricultural practices such as excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides and excessive irrigation that contribute to soil degradation, soil alkalinity and erosion and threaten sustainable food systems.

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 fisheries Sector in Yemen is a promising sector that can be relied upon to contribute to the revival of the national economy, enhancing food security and raising the level of nutrition in Yemen.
- The government is seeking to implement a package of priorities to increase local production and ensure sustainable livelihoods for fishermen and coastal communities that enable them to recover and be more resilient to resist future economic shocks.
- Social Protection Sector pursues policies aimed at integrating a range of nutrition-sensitive programs: enhancing healthy diet practices;
- Review social protection mechanisms is required in Yemen;
- To expand the scope of nutrition in schools by expanding the provision of school meals in addition to distributing biscuits to students and providing nutritional supplements for adolescent girls.
- To rehabilitate health facilities in schools, providing safe water and a healthy environment to limit the spread of diseases.
- Increase agricultural growth rates to achieve food and nutritional security;
- Combat poverty through increasing the local production of food commodities for consumption and marketing;
- Ensure sustainable livelihoods for farmers, Fishermen and rural and coastal communities with a focus on women;
- Improve and diversify sources of nutrition, increase dependency on natural micronutrients, access to food, and improve the relationship between consumers and food sources;
- Reduce food waste and loss and promote Circular Food Systems for regenerative production.
- Sustainable funding for sustainable development in Yemen should be explored by donors and partners;
- Review the current funding mechanisms and explore options for improving the government entities' capacities;
- Exploring the local innovative financing resources;
- Expand/explore partnerships with financial instruments and mechanisms.

More focus on:

- Funding and financing green and circular economy solutions
- Financing for Development
- Regional initiatives

This FSDs on AT1 was the finalization of events in Yemen. The participants expressed their great admiration for the organization of the event and its unique management style. They also emphasized that they benefited greatly from all the discussions that took place, which represented a source for renewing their ideas and working mechanisms. They stressed that their role will be pivotal in adopting the outputs in their sectors, supporting their implementation, promoting and introducing them to their decision makers.

The facilitators in the working groups ensured to allow everyone to come up with ideas and consensus around solutions. After extensive discussion and brainstorming during the plenary session, everyone expressed their views, fears and hopes. The dialogues were a free space for all that resulted in solutions that represent top priorities for the transition towards healthy, safe and sustainable food systems.

It is worth noting that the organization of events was in coordination and active participation of the coordinating bodies in the government that have the highest influence on national policies, and they were involved for the purpose of supporting the implementation of the outputs and enhancing ownership of the outputs among all participating parties.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Priority topic: Expanding social protection

- National Task-force on Social Protection Mechanisms and Zero Hunger
- National Task-force on Subsidized brown Bread

Priority topic: Expanding the scale and quality of agricultural and fishery products

- National Task-force to achieve food self-sufficiency
- National Task-force to Increase Domestic Agricultural Production
- National Task-force to Support the Agricultural and Fisheries Investment Environment
- National Task-force for Government Support to Fishermen
- National Task-force to Support Aquaculture/Aquaponic

Priority Theme: Sustainable financing for comprehensive and sustainable development

- National Task-force to Ensure Sustainable Financing Mechanisms for Comprehensive Development

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The many competing priorities in the country and the weakness of public services in all sectors led to attempts to present each sector as a top priority. However, managing events ensures that all sectors are presented with their importance, as well as finding points of contact between sectors where everyone can work and complete to achieve common goals. However, there is consensus on the importance of reaching vulnerable people first as a top priority, followed by supporting policies that ensure the sustainability of interventions.

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