

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 4 November 2022 09:00 GMT +01:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Steps towards a healthy, sustainable and fair food system in Austria 2030
CONVENED BY	Priv.Do.z.in Mag.a Dr.in Karin Schindler, Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health Care and Consumer Protection Section VII Public Health Division VII/A/3 Maternal, Child and Gender Health, Nutrition
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/50999/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	Austria

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

38

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

19-30

31-50

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

10 Male

28 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

0 Agriculture/crops

Fish and aquaculture

0 Livestock

Agro-forestry

0 Environment and ecology

Trade and commerce

0 Education

0 Communication

Food processing

Food retail, markets

0 Food industry

Financial Services

Health care

0 Nutrition

0 National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

0 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

5 Local Non-Governmental Organization

International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

6 Science and academia

Workers and trade union

Member of Parliament

1 Local authority

21 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

3 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

Consumer group

2 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

By using the Convenors Reference Manual right from the start of the event planning process, we included the Principles over the whole National Food Systems Process. Some examples where we reinforced and enhanced the principles are described in the following. Due to our work on the topic of the transformation of the food system and organizing an FSD we recognise the utmost urgency of this topic (principle 1), as well as recognizing complexity (principle 4) due to the many different levels of governance and stakeholders we tried to consider by the invitation process. During the Food Systems Dialogue we frequently repeated that participants should communicate respectfully (Principle 3).

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

As an example for how we reflect specific aspects of the Principles, we included the expertise of multi-stakeholder right from the start, also by defining the overall topic of the Dialogue, as well as the discussion topics. In Austria the 10 health targets aim to operationalize the Health-in-All-Policies approach, target 7 “healthy and sustainable nutrition available for all” particularly addressed food systems. For each of the 10 targets, a corresponding cross-sectoral working group has been established. The heads of working group on health target 7 – representing Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture as well as Ministry of Climate - were actively involved in the groundwork of the Dialogue. This guaranteed the transfer of knowledge and expertise from the very beginning on.

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

The Principles could be used as a guidance for the whole process and by always reminding the whole organization team, it could be helpful in terms of the preparation and the execution of the Food systems Dialogue

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 Competence Center Climate and Health (CCCH) at the Austrian National Public Health Institute is working on Co-Benefits on Climate and Health, with a recent focus on aspects of healthy and sustainable food systems. CCCH organised a National Independent Food Systems Dialogue aiming to bring together national stakeholders in the field of nutrition, agriculture, policymaking, science and communication together. By targeting the action Track 2 (Shift to sustainable consumption patterns) and considering a system-thinking-approach we invited stakeholders to identify future steps and perspectives in terms of "Steps towards a healthy, sustainable and fair food system in Austria in 2030". The Dialogue is overlapping with other FSD-Action Tracks (e. g. ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all). We designed five discussion groups and covered as many topics as possible in terms of the food system in Austria. The titles of the discussion groups were:

- In 2030, Austria has achieved the common and intersectoral goal of being a European leader in the field of nutrition-related co-benefits.
- In Austria, all people will be equally able to meet their food needs in a healthy and sustainable manner in 2030.
- A nationwide supply infrastructure will ensure that in 2030, healthy and sustainable food will be the easiest choice for consumers.
- Healthy and sustainable food systems are the foremost principle of the Austrian supply chain in 2030.
- In 2030, social cohesion is at the forefront of a cross-cultural and cross-generational food culture.

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 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

For the necessary transformation of the food system, it is fundamental to act in a coordinated and well-balanced way in terms of definitions and intersectoral cooperation. This means:

- The development of a homogenized/agreed set of indicators for planning, monitoring and evaluating
- Capacity building at all levels among all players in the food system, including policy-makers (from production to the trade)
- Since nutrition and eating having a strong social dimension, enjoyment should be considered when speaking about the food system
- A curriculum with different topics on health (e. g.) nutrition) should be implemented as early as possible, starting in kindergarten or primary school up to high school
- Aiming in maximising cost truthiness and transparency to make the healthy and sustainable choice the easier one, this is meant in terms of appropriate taxation and subsidization.
- Communal catering functions as a major lever in offering a healthy, sustainable and fair food approach and this should be used meaningful fro policy-makers
- Developing measure to reduce avoidable food waste

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/5

TOPIC 1 "Intersectoral food system"

- A cross-sectoral and commonly agreed definition of food systems would be useful to establish a common sense on micro and macro level
- Definition should relate to EU specifications
- Stakeholders should have knowledge on their impact on and role in sustainable food systems
- Public procurement should be a good practice example
- A set of indicators to monitor national food systems is needed
- Discussion on concept of regional origin of food: is not necessarily climate-friendly; what is considered to be regional within very small country

ACTION TRACKS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/5

TOPIC 2 "Affordability"

- It is necessary to provide appropriate infrastructure (markets, direct marketing, food boxes) to make healthy and sustainable nutrition accessible
- The cost-true pricing of products (climate, health and social) is immediately necessary to cover aspects of human and animal health and the environmental aspects
- Taxes/vouchers could be a supportive short-term measure for a healthy and sustainable diet
- Next to vouchers, community catering is seen as essential in a short-term perspective to increase affordability
- In addition, food literacy is mentioned as an important topic to improve food patterns (e. g. how to shop, how to store, etc.)

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/5

TOPIC 3 "Sustainable supply infrastructure"

- During the discussions it could be identified, that community catering is a essential lever in terms of sustainable supply infrastructures
- Large community caterers have the potential influencing many groups of the population and have different effects there (e. g. protecting the elderly against malnutrition, improving food literacy among children and young people)
- Large community caterers can additionally support local and seasonal product choice.
- Municipalities have a special role, due to the power on framework conditions (in terms of zoning)
- Production conditions and marketing channels are shaped by zoning and therefore also by the governance (subsidies for communal direct marketing, delivery services and support of communal catering would be necessary)
- Municipalities could intervene in a formative way (in schools, kindergartens, farmyards, etc.)
- Quality standards for the online food market has been discussed as well.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/5

TOPIC 4 "Food production and trade"

- Health Literacy is the basis for responsible decisions when buying food (e. g. development of health literacy in schools)
- Austria should take on an international pioneering role in research an innovation (know-how must be available and shared)
- Cooperation between production, trade, and the public sector is especially important for being successful.
- The retail sector plays an important role in advertising and therefore persuading consumers to choose healthy and sustainable products (cooperation with this sector is mandatory)
- The conflict of interest between production, trade, the public sector and consumers has been discussed (for example economic interests are often in the foreground).

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 5/5

TOPIC 5 "Social food environment"

- Nutrition is more than the satisfaction of nutritional needs, moreover it is an emotional topic and creates identity (should always be kept in mind)
- Nutrition and eating often takes place in social contexts and this consideration can be helpful when designing initiatives
- In terms of communication it is necessary to "pick people up" from their starting points (need for target group orientation)
- The different nutritional cultures should be appreciated and respected when planning strategies, initiatives, and so on.
- As early as possible the food literacy should be improved (starting in kindergartens and schools).
- In general, the group discussed the extension of nutrition competence to enjoyment competence

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Divergences were hardly identified in working group discussion. Possibly, this is a positive outcome of the cross-sectoral health targets, which were established 10 years ago.

In general it was hardly possible to find divergences. One group tried to discuss potential divergences by cooperating with other stakeholders, not attending the Dialogue and they came up with the issue of funding for different nutrition-related initiatives/ programmes. Calls for proposals for projects on food topics (e. g. health promotion) are not based on common criteria, or the often desired interdisciplinarity is not visible on the part of the funding bodies (ministries do not fund through joint calls). It is difficult for initiators to obtain permanent funding for the mentioned projects/ initiatives, and in general, projects often do not find their way into regular operations. The divergences within different organizational frameworks seem to be possible challenges here.

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