

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 29 April 2021 14:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Using systems thinking to change the “Rules of the game” in South Africa’s food system
CONVENED BY	Miles Kubheka - Board member - SA Harvest & CEO - Wakanda food accelerator
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/7993/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	South Africa

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

40

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

10

19-30

22

31-50

8

51-65

66-80

80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

23 Male

17 Female

Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

28 Agriculture/crops
Fish and aquaculture
Livestock
Agro-forestry
Environment and ecology
Trade and commerce

7 Education
Communication
Food processing
Food retail, markets
Food industry
Financial Services

5 Health care
Nutrition
National or local government
Utilities
Industrial
Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan
2 Large national business
2 Multi-national corporation
13 Small-scale farmer
Medium-scale farmer
Large-scale farmer
4 Local Non-Governmental Organization
5 International Non-Governmental Organization
Indigenous People
Science and academia

Workers and trade union
Member of Parliament
Local authority
Government and national institution
Regional economic community
United Nations
International financial institution
8 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
6 Consumer group
Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

1. Act with urgency - A key question that was consistently asked to all speakers as well as participants was one that related to urgency. This was, are we doing enough? and what can we do in order to ensure that change in the issues we face in the food system is expedited. 2. Commit to the summit - It was clearly indicated that all participants share, connect and collaborate in order to ensure that effectual change is realised. 3. Recognise complexity - The topic of the dialogue was specifically focused around this particular principle. How systems thinking can be used to effect change in the food system in South Africa. 4. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity - Since the topic of the summit was revolved around systems thinking, it was imperative that we have speakers who were form various parts of the food system. This would directly translate in various stakeholders participating.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

1. Act with urgency - A key question that was consistently asked to all speakers as well as participants was one that related to urgency. This was, are we doing enough? and what can we do in order to ensure that change in the issues we face in the food system is expedited. 2. Commit to the summit - It was clearly indicated that all participants share, connect and collaborate in order to ensure that effectual change is realised. 3. Recognise complexity - The topic of the dialogue was specifically focused around this particular principle. How systems thinking can be used to effect change in the food system in South Africa. This laser-focused approach was deliberate as it ensured that the complexity of the food system in South Africa was recognised. 4. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity - Since the topic of the summit was revolved around systems thinking, it was imperative that we have speakers who were form various parts of the food system. This would directly translate in various stakeholders participating. Speakers ranged from entrepreneurs to civil society organisations and even academia.

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

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

Comprehensive exploration of food systems- Many of the problems we are facing in the food system are caused by society – by broken systems, poor governance, misguided incentives, and greed. We can't just put tiny band-aids on these issues and think a bunch of start-ups are going to change these broken systems. The system itself needs to change. Entrepreneurs can catalyse those changes across public, private, and community networks, but they aren't lone heroes who go out and do these things alone. They need teams behind them, and we need "intrapreneurs" and entrepreneurial thinkers in all roles across society. When this is done the path to impact becomes endless. It was therefore imperative that for the dialogues, an immense focus was placed on systems thinking and how all stakeholders in the food systems can explore systems thinking to achieve systematic change in the food system.

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

(a) PROBLEM SEEKING

Before we begin trying to solve the problems that we face in the food system in South Africa, we need to make sure we understand what the actual problems are. Moreso, the problems which are causing those said problems. This will help us ensure that we are actually solving and not further perpetuating the problem.

(b) It was expressed that stakeholders need to dig deeper in whatever field they are working in to take time to discuss whether they are solving a problem or further perpetuating. To complete a further analysis of the problem at hand and understand the problems around the problem that need to be solved and furthermore, understanding all stakeholders in the problem.

COLLABORATION

Oftentimes, a particular issue that we face in the food system requires various solutions. One individual or organisation will not be able to provide all these solutions. It is therefore important to identify and collaborate the different actors needed to solve the problem. "Leave your egos and logos at the door".

3. APPLYING DIFFERENT APPROACHES

We cannot unlock the full potential of our food system without collaboration. The food system is highly fragmented one where solutions are provided in silos. Collaboration is imperative in order for us to end the cycle where the same solutions are constantly provided. Cross-sector solutions should become the norm where government, ICT, financiers, universities, entrepreneurs, etc. are working together at solving systematic issues.

4. Visibility

It is imperative to make systematic change visible. The benefits and successes of systematic collaboration should be made visible as it will inspire those who want to see a change in the food system to do so. Moreso, it will expose those who continue with the status quo and force them to change.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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KEYWORDS

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

ATTACHMENTS

- **Food systems dialogue feedback**

RELEVANT LINKS

- **SA Harvest independent UN Food Summit Dialogues**
https://youtu.be/U_aLBL6Qvg0