

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Thursday, 25 March 2021 11:00 GMT +01:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Building resilience to three (3) hits of food system in Nigeria
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Tolani Adeboye, Youth and Leadership Engagement Specialist, VSO Nigeria
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/8049/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/8049/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Nigeria

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

59

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18

22

19-30

36

31-50

1

51-65

66-80

80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

44 Male

14 Female

1 Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

4 Agriculture/crops

5 Fish and aquaculture

4 Livestock

2 Agro-forestry

3 Environment and ecology

3 Trade and commerce

10 Education

5 Communication

7 Food processing

Food retail, markets

3 Food industry

1 Financial Services

4 Health care

Nutrition

National or local government

Utilities

Industrial

8 Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

5 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

1 Large national business

Multi-national corporation

12 Small-scale farmer

5 Medium-scale farmer

1 Large-scale farmer

10 Local Non-Governmental Organization

4 International Non-Governmental Organization

Indigenous People

4 Science and academia

3 Workers and trade union

1 Member of Parliament

1 Local authority

2 Government and national institution

Regional economic community

United Nations

International financial institution

2 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

1 Consumer group

7 Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

At the beginning of the Dialogue, every participant was encouraged to listen to others, raise hands, or use a hatbox to contribute.

### HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Dialogue brought to the table a diversity of primary actors from small-scale farmers to multinational businesses to local and international NGOs. Participants listened to one another and respected the view of others in the Dialogue.

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

It is very important because it will encourage participation, inclusivity and project people's voices in the Dialogue

# 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 focus of the Dialogue was to introduce Nigerian farmers to concepts and examples around Agroecology. The Dialogue featured researchers based in Nigeria explaining what Agroecology is and how sustainable practices can produce food and reinforce resilience in the face of climate change. In particular, the Dialogue delved into how farmers can be adaptive to challenges, create favorable soil conditions, integrate species of crops with trees, and in general, enhance positive biological integrations, improved research and innovation. Researchers explained in practice what this means and used Cassava as an example. Cassava being a staple in Nigerian diets, yet farmers struggle to produce enough.

Most speakers who followed also emphasized the need to adapt to change and argued for strategic policy actions from the government both at a state and federal level.

### ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

### KEYWORDS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data & Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Governance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women & Youth Empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trade-offs
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment and Climate

## MAIN FINDINGS

A central theme and finding from the Dialogue was “that farmers are left to their own devices”. Many farmers and food producers are unsure how to incorporate sustainable and biodynamic farming practices. Farmers spoke about the need for clear communication and materials that can be disseminated in local dialects. Producers asked for clear examples and a recognition that most families are subsistence farmers. There exists a gap between producers for a family’s needs on the one hand and growing enough to sell at market for a profit. Farmers and food producers asked for targeted action plans to assist land reclamation and cultivation. Producers also asked for clearer roles between local and federal level governments. Greater inclusivity in agricultural modernization programs as well as dissemination of knowledge and practices that can increase yields for crops.

Both the expert presenters and food producers in the Dialogue highlighted how small farms are in Nigeria compared to other countries. Most farms are run as family-based operations, with whatever knowledge had been passed down through the generations. The cultural context of Nigeria adds an extra burden for women. Women who own land are not perceived as professional farmers, male farmers do not share insights and relevant information with women.

Also emerging from the dialogue were the following key points which were proposed;

- The right of people to define their own food and agricultural policies.
- Rights and control of land, water, seeds, livestock breeds, territories.
- Right to protect and regulate domestic agricultural production and trade (e.g. restrict the dumping of products in local markets).

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/3

Agroecology (a way of building environmental resilience) principles discussed were; Adapting to the local environment – its constraints and opportunities, creating favorable soil conditions for plant growth and recycling nutrients, diversifying species, crop varieties, and livestock breeds in the agroecosystem over time and space – including integrating crops, trees, and livestock from the field to landscape levels.

As a conclusion on how agroecology can contribute to addressing major climate and food challenges in Nigeria, what emerged was building the knowledge of farmers, indigenous peoples, and pastoralists, this could be done by government through extension workers or other food organization. Increasing research and innovations and delivering it in the indigenous languages.

There's also an urgent need to rethink and transform production models.

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### KEYWORDS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/3

As a way of building resilience to the economic crisis, Investment in the farming system particularly in the local environment which will improve the farming system and production was stated. Also mentioned is that Government needs to provide policy and justice for farmers. Likewise working hand in hand at the community level i.e. government, private organizations, NGOs, CSOs need to work together for developing a farming system at the local level. Speakers that work with youth and civic society asked for more cooperation with the government and greater participation in government and decision-making.

### ACTION TRACKS

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### KEYWORDS

- |                                     |                           |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
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| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Human rights              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Governance              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Trade-offs              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            |                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environment and Climate |



## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/3

As measures against insecurities suggestions include Government to fight against insecurity and make Nigeria free from security challenges. Also, improving evaluation and monitoring programs, Providing Insurance for farmers, and consistent policy.

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## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The key area of divergence and trade-off was between using agroecological methods and guaranteeing yields for crops. Most farmers recognize that Nigeria is not producing enough food for its population and want to change that. Farmers consider tradeoffs between farming methods tested and tried via their families or newer methods. There needs to be more communication between scholars and researchers involved in biodynamic food production and the actual farmers and cultivators.

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# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

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## RELEVANT LINKS

- **Building resilience to three(3) hits of food system**  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/15QhEXxXnyJ3nQ6qLduw8o67n6CRpJtk/view?usp=sharing>